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IDF Lt. Guy Ovadia, 23, of Kibbutz Yotvata, was fatally wounded in an ambush near Rafiah yesterday morning.

Hamas took responsibility for the attack, saying it was "a response to the massacre at the Erez checkpoint."

At approximately 6 a.m., an IDF patrol on the outskirts of Rafiah near the Egyptian-Israeli border spotted a pair of trucks and a ladder placed on the fence surrounding the southern part of the Gaza Strip.

Ovadia, a deputy company commander, got off his armored

jeep and approached the ladder while a driver and a tracker remained in the vehicle. As he neared the fence, shots were fired from houses in the Tel-Sultan neighborhood of Rafiah. He was critically wounded in the head by two bullets and later died in Beer-Sheva's Soroka Hospital.

The driver and the tracker remained in the jeep, whose armor plating evidently saved their lives.

Following the shooting, the driver and the tracker radioed for reinforcements and then came out and returned limited fire at the houses. According to the soldiers, the assailants fled into Rafiah's Salah A-Din mosque. Palestinian witnesses said they saw two men fleeing the scene of the attack, yelling "Allah Akbar."

Empty cartridges, an unexploded hand grenade and Izzadin Kas-

san pamphlets were found near the site of the incident. The announcement by Hamas's Izzadin Kasam military wing said the group had "set up an ambush for an Israeli patrol to avenge the Erez massacre. The Israeli government must understand that Palestinian blood will not be spilled in vain, and Hamas's reac-

tion to Israeli actions will be even more violent."

An initial army investigation indicated that the ambush was planned well ahead of time, and that the assailants were positioned in advance, expecting the patrol to pass by, and expecting the soldiers to examine the ladder. The commander of the southern Gaza Strip brigade, Col. H., said in a briefing that it was evident the ambush was

a sophisticated operation.

"We will have to draw lessons from this unfortunate incident. Our findings show that the patrol operated according to all necessary procedures before and after the officer was shot," he said.

Army sources said that operational procedures governing the fence patrol would now be altered.

"It is an incident reminiscent in

its simplicity but sophistication of Lebanon, in the days when roadside bombs were planted in watermelons or soccer balls," said one Southern Command source.

The IDF briefed the Palestinian Police in the Gaza Strip on the details of the attack, and asked that an effort be made to apprehend the perpetrators. A Palestinian policeman said a Palestinian passerby was wounded in the exchange of gunfire.

Ovadia will be buried this evening in Kibbutz Yotvata at 6:30 p.m.

IDF lieutenant killed in Hamas ambush

ALON PINKAS

Water plays dominant role in Ein Avrona negotiations

LIAT COLLINS

WATER, not security or borders, was the toughest issue discussed during the two-day bilateral talks between Jordan and Israel at Ein Avrona, north of Eilat. The talks ended last night, having been extended by several hours. They are due to be resumed on August 8.

Although both sides described the atmosphere as "positive," the water talks got bogged down when the Jordanians demanded immediate recognition of their water rights, apparently in an attempt to bring home immediate results to the Jordanian public.

Water Commissioner Gideon Tsur told *The Jerusalem Post* that the talks on the water "are particularly complicated and the road is long."

After yesterday's talks, he said: "We agreed to recognize their water rights based on the results of the negotiations on fair allocation of water, but we also recognize and will reach agreement on the acceptable principles concerning water allocation."

At the news conference, which concluded the round of talks, the wording concerning water issues was most ambiguous, in marked contrast to the positive statements concerning security, border, environmental and energy issues.

The summing-up statement was read by Jordanian delegation head Fayez Tarawneh, who began with the issue the Jordanians are most concerned about: the border between the two countries. Work will start on the preparation of joint maps and additional material to continue work on the Jordanian-Israeli boundary, he said. Tarawneh said the two sides sitting on the security sub-committee "had reached a broad understanding on security issues." He talked about the satisfaction from the excellent and productive spirit and progress on security issues.

Regarding water, Tarawneh said the subcommittee mutually recognizes the rightful allocation of water, and the committee had stressed the need to make more water available, share data on development and use, and agreed to mutual prevention of harm to water resources.

The environment section of the same subcommittee agreed to acknowledge the important ecology of the region, its high environmental sensitivity and the need to protect the environment and natural resources. Economic growth must be based on the principle of sustainable development, the statement read. Both parties agree to cooperate in matters concerning environmental protection.

Concerning energy, the statement described "bilateral future cooperation comprising energy generation such as oil shale extraction," and possible future connection of the electric grids of both countries. It was also decided to continue talks on economic matters.

Israeli delegation head Elyakim Rubinstein said the document the two groups initiated was "balanced," and that the meeting had paved the way for today's talks in Jordan between the foreign ministers and next week's talks in Washington between King Hussein, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and President Clinton. He called the talks "another milestone towards peace."

Meanwhile, in another first, a convoy of Israeli media vehicles, including mobile television and radio studios clearly marked in Hebrew, crossed the Allenby Bridge yesterday. This was the first time Israeli journalists have been allowed to cross into Jordan on Israeli passports. Reporters spoke about a friendly atmosphere and noted they had been granted Jordanian press tags.

Peres to Jordan today for trilateral talks

First official visit by Israeli minister to Jordan

DAN IZENBERG and DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAELI officials will officially set foot on Jordanian soil for the first time this afternoon in an historic meeting of foreign ministers on the Dead Sea's eastern shore.

Jordan's Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdel Salam Majali, Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres are scheduled to meet at 2 p.m. at the Dead Sea Spa Hotel. Israeli journalists are also invited to the occasion, and some already did so yesterday.

The foreign ministers are expected to prepare for a White House summit on Monday between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein.

Senior officials voiced hope that this afternoon's trilateral meeting will be capped by a joint statement pledging economic and development cooperation between all three countries.

The three parties have formed a panel to deal with potentially broad economic cooperation, where both sides will continue to hold substantive talks after the three leaders leave.

The event will begin with all three foreign ministers making speeches, after which all three leaders will adjourn to a trilateral meeting. A joint news conference will follow.

Before the leaders leave, Majali and Peres will hold a private meeting. Foreign Ministry officials say.

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal said a Jordanian economic team could make a landmark visit to Israel as soon as next week to discuss projects agreed upon in talks on the Israeli-Jordanian border.

Officials in the Prime Minister's Office say the US has agreed to "modernize Jordan's

army" in return for a breakthrough in relations between Jordan and Israel.

King Hussein's agreement to meet with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was preceded by a memorandum of understanding with the US in which Jordan promised to reduce its army by one division, Rabin revealed yesterday. Military analysts say Jordan currently maintains four fighting divisions, even though much of its equipment is believed outdated.

Rabin was replying to a question by Benjamin Begin (Likud) during a meeting of the Knesset foreign affairs and defense committee. Begin asked what the US promised Hussein in return for his consent to participate in a "photo opportunity" with the Israeli prime minister.

"I do not know the scope of [the US] aid, but I estimate that the Americans concluded a memorandum of understanding with Hussein leading to a decrease in the size of the Jordanian fighting force," a source who attended the meeting quoted Rabin as saying. "That was one of the conditions in return for [US] aid. We are talking in the range of a fighting division which will be eliminated."

Officials in the Prime Minister's Office confirmed that King Hussein requested that the US provide him with F-16 aircraft, but the US has yet to respond.

Rabin said he refused to predict whether next week's scheduled meeting with Hussein and US President Bill Clinton in Washington would lead to a peace treaty between the two countries.

"I don't want to be a prophet and predict what will happen in another four or five days," said Rabin. "However, the meeting is



A member of the Israeli delegation to the talks in Ein Avrona holds a case containing maps detailing Israel's position on the future border with Jordan. (Gideon Markovitz)

important in and of itself. I believe it will open new horizons and new ways to advance the peace with Jordan."

He described the summit as "a great step forwards. We have al-

ways regarded public meetings with Arab leaders as an advanced stage in the normalization of relations."

Rabin said he believed Hussein would "in the long run" sign

a peace treaty, but indicated that Israel would not necessarily accept all Jordanian demands. He added that Jordan was moving slowly because of the strong internal opposition to peace, the

Sixty people still missing in Buenos Aires explosion

DAN IZENBERG and news agencies

RESCUE crews worked feverishly yesterday to free a man trapped deep in a pile of jagged concrete, glass and steel that once housed two Jewish community organizations in Buenos Aires.

The man, about 30, was still conscious. He was imprisoned by a steel beam lying across his legs, workers said.

The seven-story building was leveled by an explosion Monday that killed at least 27 people and wounded 127. Seventy people were still unaccounted for almost 30 hours after the explosion, community leaders said yesterday.

Witnesses said three other people were pulled out alive during rescue operations overnight, bringing to at least eight the number of survivors removed since the headquarters of the Delegation of Argentinean Israeli Associations and

the Argentinean Israeli Mutual Association crumbled Monday morning.

The survivors, none of whom was immediately identified, were hospitalized.

"There still must be more people" buried in the ruins, said Alberto Krupnicoff, president of the mutual association, who said as many as 200 people were in the building at the time.

Krupnicoff said many employees working on the first and second floors were able to escape, but several construction workers and waiters were in the basement. He said those coming to the social aid offices on the fourth floor were elderly people collecting monthly pensions and young people looking for jobs.

The government declared three

days of mourning, and a massive search was launched for the perpetrators. The blast heavily damaged buildings in a block-long area.

President Carlos Menem said an Iraqi man carrying an expired Brazilian passport was detained Monday night while trying to cross the border to Brazil in Paso de los Libres, about 1,000 kilometers north of Buenos Aires. He was identified in news reports as Mohammed Yousif, 31.

Menem also said a Moroccan man, identified as Kabir Palkan, 33, was detained in the neighborhood of the explosion.

Airports were closed temporarily to foil escape. About 3,000 passengers were delayed for hours at Ezeiza International Airport, but

were finally allowed to leave after identity checks.

Throughout the night, spotlights cast an eerie glow over hard-hatted civil defense volunteers who swarmed the pile of rubble looking for survivors. Emergency lights illuminated neighboring buildings full of broken windows, drooping balconies and twisted metal shutters. Burned cars, glass and masonry lay strewn about.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin blamed Islamic extremists sponsored by Iran for the bombing, and called on the international community to "strike at this viper and crush its skull."

Iran denied that it was involved and accused Israel of carrying out the attack.

In the Knesset yesterday, Likud Party chairman Benjamin Netanyahu called on the government to order the Syrians to halt their aid to the Hizbullah. He was speaking in the Knesset plenum during a debate on the terrorist attack.

"I call on the prime minister to convey a very sharp message to Syria to stop all patronage, help and support to the terrorism of the Hizbullah and the other Palestinian organizations operating from Damascus," said Netanyahu.

"The government of Israel cannot make do with expressions of sorrow."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres expressed the government's "deep shock and great sorrow in the face of the murderous attack against innocent people, Jew and non-Jew, in the heart of the Jewish community of Buenos Aires."

Peres pointed out that Iran was behind the last terrorist attack in Buenos Aires, aimed at the Israeli Embassy.

Mexican-born Benjamin Temkin (Meretz) began his speech in Spanish, saying, "Today we are all Argentines, today we are all Jews."

Tamar Gozansky (DFPE) warned that the attack should not be cynically exploited to claim that the Jews are alone and the world hates them.

Zevulun Hammer (NRP) said the illusion that the agreement with the PLO had created calm and eliminated terrorism has been shattered. "Gaza is here," said Hammer. "It is in the Erez Junction, Tel Aviv, Afula and Buenos Aires."

Files on community's history destroyed, Page 2

Greek Orthodox: Consult us on status of holy places

HAIM SHAPIRO

ALL the talks regarding the future of Jerusalem and the safeguarding of the holy places have taken place without consulting the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem, the senior bishop of Jerusalem said yesterday.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, Metropolitan Timothy, the secretary to the patriarch, expressed for the first time in public his church's concern that it has not been asked to play a part.

"We are very much concerned over the fact that discussions are going on about the holy places and guardianship of the holy places without referring to the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate, which owns 70 percent of the sites in the holy places and is the senior church in Jerusalem," Timothy said yesterday in his office in the Patriarchate, near the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Recently, he said, the Patri-

archate had been in contact with both Israeli and Jordanian officials in order to initiate a dialogue concerning the future of the holy places.

Timothy noted that according to news reports, Israel is willing to consider Jordan as the guardian of the Moslem holy places and that in an interview, Jordan's Prince Hassan was quoted as saying that the Jordanians would be guardians of the Moslem shrines and the Vatican would be the guardian of the Christian shrines.

"The Greek Orthodox Church is rooted in this land for thousands of years. It is the major Christian community, and the patriarch has always been considered by the other Christians as the head of the Christian community," Timothy said, adding that the Greek Orthodox faithful also constituted the majority of Christians in Israel

and the territories.

Patriarch Diodoros I is in ill health, but he, too, made a point of lending his voice to say that the Roman Catholic Church could not represent the Christians of the Holy Land.

"The Vatican does not represent us," he said.

Timothy said that the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate had welcomed the agreement between Israel and the Vatican, as it did all agreements between states which led to greater understanding and cooperation. He said that both Israeli and Roman Catholic officials had met with the Greek Orthodox hierarchy to assure them that the agreement would not affect the status quo regarding the rights of the various Christians communities in the holy places.

As for Vatican calls for international guarantees for the holy

places, Timothy said his church was content with a letter sent upon the election of Diodoros in 1981 by then-interior minister and minister for religious affairs Yosef Burg, recognizing the historic rights of the Greek Orthodox Church in Jerusalem. However, he added, in the light of recent developments, the church would like to ensure that its seniority is not disregarded or amended.

Timothy also stressed that in speaking of the holy places in Jerusalem, he also referred to the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, and noted that of all the churches in Jerusalem, the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate was the only one which did not have its central authority elsewhere.

"Only the Greek Orthodox Church is the local church and self-administering, with no other authority outside of Jerusalem," he said.



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Christopher: No breakthrough in Damascus

THE long dispute between Israel and Syria still is defying resolution despite historic changes in the Middle East, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher said yesterday.

He credited Hafez Assad with being "very serious about making progress" toward a peace treaty with Israel. But Christopher told reporters after a meeting with the Syrian president the unresolved issues remained complex and intertwined.

They include terms of a treaty, how much territory on the Golan Heights Israel would surrender

and the diplomatic and economic relations that an accord would provide for two countries who have fought wars and been at odds since Israel's founding in 1948.

Christopher also indicated he had brought no new initiatives to Damascus from Jerusalem, where he met twice yesterday with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and separately with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Rabin yesterday did not rule out the possibility that Israel would totally withdraw from the Golan Heights, but disassociated his government from a 1967 cabinet deci-

DAN IZENBERG and agencies sion recognizing Syrian sovereignty over the territory.

During an appearance before the foreign affairs and defense committee, Rabin said: "I have made a public commitment not to withdraw from the Golan Heights. If, heaven forbid, such a situation should arise, there will [first] be a national referendum. In any case, the decision will not be made by those chosen in the last election. It is the people who will decide."

Asked about Peres's statement last week that Israel had recog-

nized Syrian sovereignty over the Golan Heights "over and over again," Rabin said: "Peres was talking about [other] governments. There were governments which recognized [Syrian] sovereignty. As far as this government is concerned, there is no government decision [recognizing] Syrian sovereignty."

Peres, responding to five motions to the agenda during a plenary debate on his declaration, said he had been referring to a cabinet decision made a few days after the end of the Six Day War. According to the resolution, Israel agreed

to return to the 1967 borders in return for a peace treaty with Syria which took Israeli security needs into account. The proposal also stipulated that Syria would not divert Israeli water sources.

"When the government made that decision, it knew what it was doing," said Peres. "And by the way, it was not a secret decision. It was conveyed to the Americans and the Syrians."

Peres stressed that the current government has not made any decision on the extent of the withdrawal. It is prepared to undertake

Second Buenos Aires bombing is leaving deeper emotional scars than attack on Israeli Embassy

ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

IN the Argentinian Embassy, the Foreign Ministry's situation room, and especially at the headquarters of the Association for South American Immigrants, telephones were ringing constantly yesterday.

Visitors and Israelis of Argentinian origin worried about the fate of friends and loved ones who may have been inside or in the vicinity of the destroyed Jewish community building flooded the switchboards with calls.

On Tel Aviv's Marmorek Street, more than 25 staff and volunteers crowded the offices of the Organization for South American immigrants yesterday, manning the phones and giving what information was available on those confirmed dead, hospitalized, or listed as missing.

"Our entire community is in a state of shock and depression," said Arye Feinstein, the group's secretary. Feinstein said a rally of identification with the Buenos Aires Jewish community was being organized for 7:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque.

Among those working the telephones was Daniel Sterlino, 53, who moved here four years ago. Sterlino worked in the Buenos Aires Jewish community for 20 years. "I know everybody there," he said. "This blast was far more emotionally devastating for them and for the Jewish community in Argentina than the destruction of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires two years ago."

"When it happened at the Israeli embassy, it was something related to the Israeli-Arab conflict, not



Foreign Minister Shimon Peres takes a call from Argentina in the situation room at the Foreign Ministry yesterday, assisted by Ron Frosor, director of the situation room. (Brian Hencher)

to antisemitism, and it could have happened anywhere. It was connected to Israel, and not to the Jews in Argentina. This is far

more frightening," said Beatrice Schenkman. Before moving here 10 years ago, Schenkman's work in a Jewish archive brought her to the building daily.

"There are people I haven't thought of for 10 years, and suddenly, I remember them. Not just my friends, but the man who operated the elevator or the secretaries, or the woman who handled vacations. Suddenly, I remember their faces," she said.

Dr. Mario Sznajder, a political science professor at Hebrew University, feels lucky. His sister, Monica Spangenthal, worked for an organization called "Tzedakah," based for years in the building that was hit. Two weeks ago the organization moved to another building two blocks away. Spangenthal's husband, unsure whether she was in the building, ran out to search for her. When she heard of the blast, she went to

her husband's family business. As she walked in, her father-in-law began crying, and she feared someone he knew had been killed. "No," he told her. "I am crying because I am happy you are alive."

Sznajder said "people there are tremendously afraid - this is being seen not as an attack against the Israeli government, but an attack against the existence of Jews in Argentina."

Records of community also destroyed

ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

AS if it wasn't enough to mourn the lives lost in the bomb blast in Argentina, the Jewish community in Buenos Aires is grieving over the loss of much of their history as well.

The seven-story building on Pasteur Street, located in what is traditionally the Jewish quarter, was home not only to the offices for Argentinian Jewish organizations, but was also a repository for the 60-year-old archives that comprised the history of Jews in Argentina.

Dr. Haim Avni, professor of contemporary Jewish history at Hebrew University, said the most irreplaceable losses include the YIVO Institute's library, located on the fourth floor of the building, which housed the literary treasures of Argentinian Jewry. Stored in the basement was the history of "Amia," the main organizational body of Argentinian Jewry, which just celebrated its 100th anniversary.

"If the basement resisted the blow, I am still very

much afraid the water pipelines will burst and destroy what was there. In the pictures on television, I haven't seen any fire, which is a good sign and gives me hope. I hope enough care is taken during the clean-up to preserve what is left."

Also in the building were the records of the Hevra Kadisha containing the community's cemetery records, and the lists of all Jewish students in the Buenos Aires community.

Avni expressed concern for the future financial viability of the organizational structure of the community, which is already strapped for funds. "I am very much afraid there is going to be an impoverishment," he said. Once the remains of the building are swept away, they will have to build another and completely reorganize. One of the specialties of the Argentinian organizations was caring for the weakest elements of their community: the aged and the poor. They are going to be harmed very much."

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The weekly meeting of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Mr. Zvi Gilladi will speak on The Christian Embassy.

ARRIVALS

For the Eumash of America Convention on Whelan Dr. Ronald Reich, Eumash of America National president; Stanley Rosenberg, Eumash of America Men's Division President; Mr. Joseph Menzelstein, chairman of the board, Eumash of America Men's Division; Beverly Segal, honorary national president; Shirley Singer, executive vice president.

Rabin: Iranian-backed militants behind blast

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday said he believed Iranian-backed Islamic militants were behind the Buenos Aires bombing in retaliation for recent Israeli strikes against Hizbullah in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, senior Argentinian officials said Mossad agents accompanied a humanitarian Israeli rescue team en route to Argentina in an effort to track down the perpetrators, along with bomb experts and army specialists.

Rabin said yesterday Israel recently alerted friendly intelligence agencies around the world, along with Israeli embassies and Jewish organizations, about a possible Islamic terrorist reprisal to Israeli attacks, but said "we had general indications, but we did not know where and when it would be. We had no concrete knowledge."

While admitting he had no incontrovertible evidence, Rabin told Channel Two "I have no doubt that the Islamic terrorist extremists stand behind this."

The prime minister told Argentinian Television he is convinced that Iran played a role, even though yesterday they denied doing so. "I believe they were involved. Perhaps there was Iranian

assistance. I have no definitive proof. But there is nobody else" who could carry something out with such sophistication and have a motive to do so, he said.

Rabin said he was convinced Iranian-backed militants were behind the killing because the location and timing of the blast is remarkably similar to the attack on the Israeli embassy in 1992.

Rabin said Islamic groups like Hizbullah carried out the attack to avenge recent Israeli strikes in southern Lebanon, including the capture of Islamic militant Mustafa Dirani, believed to know of Ron Arad's whereabouts.

He termed the Iranian-Hizbullah connection "close," saying "Hizbullah receives weapons from Iran, is funded by them and is trained by them."

When pressed by reporters, Rabin said that he does not think Syria bears any direct responsibility for the attack, but noted that Damascus provides geographic cover for Hizbullah operations.

Rabin angrily declared that Islamic militancy was motivated by antisemitism. "In recent years, we witnessed extreme Islamic terror. It is opposed to Judaism, and the Jewish State," he said.

NEWSLINE

with JOSE MARIA OTEGUI

Otegui is Argentina's ambassador to Israel

In your opinion, what is the reason that terrorists struck a second time in Buenos Aires?

These terrorists have taken into account that the Jewish community in Argentina is one of the oldest, most important and well-established communities in the world.

The repercussion of such an attack is immediate and widespread. But we don't just regard the attack as against Jews but against the Argentinian people as a whole. As far as we know there are non-Jews wounded too. We feel great sorrow and sadness at the loss of lives and the wounded.

People may assume that security precautions are lacking in Buenos Aires. Is this the case?

No, definitely not. Argentinian security and safety precautions are comparable to any other country in the Western world. Security measures there are stringent.

But as we know from the bombing of New York's World Trade Center, there is no fool-proof protection against indiscriminate terrorist attacks.

Buenos Aires is still a safe place for Jews, Israelis and Argentinians alike.

What has your day been like at the embassy?

We have been receiving calls all day long from people with relatives there, trying to find out about the dead and wounded. But most phone calls have been from those with relatives somewhere in the city but who had doubts as to their whereabouts. The results could have been a lot worse - it is now the winter holiday time in Argentina and many people were on vacation with their children. The area of the explosion is downtown Buenos Aires, and very densely populated.

What sort of cooperation has there been between the Israeli and Argentinian governments?

Since the first moment there has been excellent cooperation between the governments in every way, not only to elucidate the facts of the attack but also to help in the saving of lives at the site. Israel, which has ample experience in this field, has sent rescue squads and equipment.

I must stress this tragic event has very clearly shown the strong links between our two countries. We are receiving all the assistance that we request. The Argentinian government closed all the borders immediately and is working in close cooperation with the Israeli government to find the perpetrators.

Raine Marcus

Rabin: Arafat now responsible for well-being of Gazans

DAN IZENBERG

THE Gaza border crossing, closed since Sunday's rioting at Erez Junction, will not re-open until the Palestinians introduce measures to prevent similar incidents, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday.

Rabin also told the Knesset foreign affairs and defense committee that Hamas had been prepared in advance to exploit a situation such as the one that developed on Sunday.

The prime minister said the incident had been sparked by the "economic distress" of the Palestinians in Gaza and added that the solution to the problem is for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to introduce an economic program which will be properly supervised and audited. He rejected an IDE

officer's description of the Palestinian population as "starving."

From now on, "the entire process of examining permits and papers will take place in Palestinian territory," a source who attended the meeting said afterwards.

"The [Palestinian workers] will move from the Palestinian roadblock to the terminal in groups of a few dozen and one group will not move ahead until the one before it has been processed."

"Until then, the Gaza Strip will not be open," said Rabin.

He said Hamas had not orchestrated the riots but was ready to exploit them, as evidenced by the fact that dozens of firebombs were discovered at the scene of the disturbances.

KNESSET BRIEFS

Bill would give MKs extra funds

The plenum overrode objections by the House committee to back a bill calling for apportioning 20 percent of the party funding to individual MKs to finance their parliamentary activities. The initiator of the bill, Meir Sheerit (Likud), said if passed, MKs would have close to NIS 100,000 a year at their disposal to hire parliamentary aides.

Livnat: Schools should fly Israeli flag

The education committee began discussion of a bill sponsored by Limor Livnat (Likud) obliging all schools to fly the Israeli flag regularly. Livnat said the flag would signal that Israel is a Jewish state.

Homeless youths problem in capital

Some 120 Jerusalem youths aged 14 to 18 lack shelter and sleep outdoors part of the year, officials told a labor and social affairs subcommittee. Jerusalem municipal officials said it cost NIS 130 to put up a homeless youth for the night.

Dan Izenberg

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILLAN

Media reporting on Israel is not only relentlessly unfair but immensely harmful to Israel and to democratic values. The Jerusalem Post's popular and hard-hitting Eye on the Media column cites specific media reports and names to expose the bias, distortions and gross factual errors that plague such coverage. Reprinted here are 97 recent columns on the way the American, European - and Israeli - media report events.

Eye on the Media is an eye opener; essential reading for everyone who cares about Israel, truth and journalistic ethics.

David Bar-Illan's column is outstanding. He is 100% right. Teddy Kollek (Davar, August 21, 1992)

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In very deep sorrow, we announce the death of my husband, our father and grandfather

GEORGE (HaCohen) LANDAU ז"ל

Son of Avraham Shimon (HaCohen) Landau

The funeral took place yesterday, July 19, 1994 (11 Av 5754) at Kibbutz Lavi.

The family is sitting shiva in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Gloria, Shmuel, David, Micha, Joel, and the grandchildren and Kibbutz Lavi

We mourn the passing of

FREDA FINGERHUT ז"ל

The funeral will take place today, Wednesday, July 20, 1994, at the Groman-Eden Cemetery, California, U.S.A.

The Family
Baruch & Zippora Bedrock
Bernice Klass
Dr. Aaron and Nelli Fingerhut
Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren

With profound sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved

HY HALBERT

on July 16, in Toronto.

Wife: Faye Halbert
Sons: Gerald & Ralph Halbert
Daughter: Rhoda Brown

United Israel Appeal of Canada

המגבית המאוחדת לישראל בקנדה אינא

The Board, Officers and Staff of the United Israel Appeal of Canada

mourn the passing of

HY HALBERT

Husband of Faye, father of Dr. Gerald Halbert - President of UIA, Ralph Halbert and Rhoda Brown.

Our sincerest sympathies are extended to the family.

Phil Granovsky
Chairman of the Board
Steven Ait
Executive Vice President

Max Blankstein
Chairman, Israel Residents' Committee
Dr. Amnon Shinar
Director General, Israel Office

Settlers launch new fundraising drive in US

SUE FISHKOFF
NEW YORK

SPURRED on by what it sees as growing government indifference to the plight of Jewish settlers in the territories, the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza is launching a new educational and fundraising campaign in North America in a heightened effort to fill its coffers and garner increased public support.

A new group called American Friends of Yesha was launched last weekend with a radio blitz in the New York area tied to Tisha be'Av. The radio spot appealed to Jewish listeners to pray for the 130,000 Jews in "Israel's frontier and heartland," even as they mourn the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem.

A similar plea to remember the settlers during Tisha be'Av prayers was mailed to hundreds of synagogues in North America and around the world.

American Friends of Yesha, which is not yet incorporated and is not affiliated with any political party, will funnel the funds it raises for the Council of Jewish Communities through Pro-Israel, a New York group established last year as the council's fundraising arm in North America.

According to a source that requested anonymity, the new group will shift the focus of the council's North American campaign away from Pro-Israel's "academic bent" and towards a more "activist" orientation, one that

will "tug at the heartstrings of American Jews."

Although board members of American Friends of Yesha insist that they are not a "breakaway" group from Pro-Israel but will work together with it, Pro-Israel President Dr. Ernest Bloch said last week that he had not heard of the new group.

AFY's board of directors includes veterans of the Soviet Jewry campaign from the 1970s, says board member Linda Allen, a professor at New York's Baruch College. The group will probably borrow publicity techniques from that earlier campaign, including "Prisoner of Conscience" bracelets, perhaps bearing the names of settlers in "endangered" communities.

"It will be a very emotional campaign," says one supporter.

"We don't have the luxury of waiting for people to come to us for information," Allen says. "We have to reach out to the American Jewish community in a pro-active way."

Council head Yehiel Leiter said yesterday that AFY will reach "for the hearts and minds" of American Jews, and may evolve into a political lobbying group.

One of its goals, in addition to fundraising, will be to rally like-minded American Jewish groups to its cause, Leiter said.

"If there's no Yesha, there's nothing to be right-wing about," he said.

Right-wingers: Gov't trying to quell opposition through arrests

BILL HUTMAN and HERB KEINON

THE detention of two anti-government activists over the last two days, for allegedly calling for an illegal demonstration in Jerusalem's Old City, prompted charges from right-wing groups yesterday that the government is trying to quell anti-Rabin demonstrations.

Jerusalem Police brought in for questioning Ya'acov Novick and Rafi Atiya, activists in a small group called Match Mamatz, as part of its investigation into calls for a march around the Old City on Tisha be'Av eve last Saturday night. That march did not have the necessary police permits.

Rafi Tarwil, another activist in Match Mamatz, said the arrests "are an attempt by the police to quell the protests from the right, so that [Prime Minister] Rabin will be able to close his eyes to what the majority of the country thinks."

The Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza sent a letter to Police Minister Moshe Shahal that read: "We are turning to you to stop the wave of political arrests intended to deter legitimate demonstrations and protests against the dangerous policies of the government. We are doing this out of concern for the rule of law and democracy."

Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby sharply denied charges that the police action was politically motivated. Rather, he said, the two activists had directly violated a High Court order prohibiting a "large demonstration."

The two men were released last night. Yesterday morning, Atiya had appealed his detention to Je-

rusalem Magistrates Court earlier in the day, but the appeal was dismissed.

Meretz city councilwoman Anat Hoffman issued a complaint with police about the march, bringing to their attention that publicity posters included the city's emblem and phone number.

Police are also looking into allegations that the municipality was party to the call for the march.

Israel Radio reported that city officials said the municipality was mentioned in the posters without their knowledge. But Tarwil said the city knew about the march, and that the city's Torah Culture Department agreed to help organize it.

Novick said last night that the city changed its mind after being pressured by the police, and that as soon as the city did so, he took the municipality's emblem off the posters.

The city spokesman was unavailable for comment.

Novick was taken to the Russian Compound police station for questioning yesterday, after failing to show up on his own on Sunday. Posters calling for the march were found during a search of his home. Atiya was detained on Monday.

Police said Atiya ordered the posters printed. Neither of the two men cooperated with investigators.

Novick was summoned for questioning by police last week for allegedly threatening physical harm to Jerusalem police chief Aryeh Amit. Novick has denied these allegations.

NY clown doctors coming to help put a smile on young patients' faces

SUE FISHKOFF
NEW YORK

NEW YORK clowns Michael Christensen and Laine Barton arrive in Israel Friday to lay the groundwork for the country's first "clown care unit" at The Children's Medical Center in Petah Tikva.

Christensen and Barton are two of 35 "clown doctors" with the Big Apple Circus Clown Care Unit who visit critically and terminally ill children at New York hospitals, performing outlandish tricks and mimicking doctors to get the kids laughing and alleviate their fears.

Christensen, who sports a hobo's garb, a white doctor's coat and a huge red nose, and Barton, outfitted in a multicolored hoop skirt, blow bubbles out of stethoscopes, stick red rubber noses on giggling children, and run around hospital corridors with rubber chickens on their trays, asking "Who ordered the high-protein platter?"

Sunday the pair begin a week-long workshop to train two dozen theater students at Tel Aviv University in the art of "clown medi-

cine," including their time-honored techniques of "red nose transplants" and "chocolate milk transfusions." Workshop graduates will begin regular clowning duties at The Children's Medical Center the following week.

Christensen, who founded the circus's clown care unit in 1986, says the point of the program is to bring joy and laughter to a place filled with pain and fear.

"It's hard to be fearful when you're laughing," he says. Noting that the Tel Aviv University students will work with both Arab and Jewish children at the medical center, Christensen said he hopes the program will help relieve the tensions associated with hospitalization, but he can't promise more than that.

"We're not about to bring peace to the Middle East," he says. "We'll leave that to other clowns." He says he hopes the clown care unit will become a permanent fixture in Israel's hospitals.

Court throws out petition on illegal building

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday threw out a petition against illegal building in eastern Jerusalem, saying the petitioners did not prove that the city deliberately fails to enforce the building laws against Arabs.

The court said the petition also deserved to be thrown out because it was too general, and because many people who might be hurt by it were not included as respondents.

The petition, by MK Uzi Landau (Likud) and four others, charged that the Jerusalem Municipality ignores illegal building by Arabs. While the city pays lip service to the law by obtaining court orders to have illegal buildings destroyed, it fails to ensure that the buildings are actually demolished, the petition said. It cited 219 cases over the last

20 years where buildings which were ordered torn down are still standing.

However, the municipality denied that it has a policy of non-enforcement, citing the number of demolition orders that have been executed as proof of its position. While it did not have time to check all the cases cited by Landau, the city continued, it did find that in 10 of them, building permits have since been issued for the buildings.

Furthermore, noted justices Yitzhak Zamir, Theodor Orr and Tova Strasberg-Cohen in their ruling, of the 219 demolition orders listed in the petition, only 15 were issued in the last decade. Most were issued between 1974 and 1977.

The justices said that in the face of the city's flat denial, the petitioners were obligated to prove that city officials were lying about the policy. They said, the petitioners failed to do.

"Even if we accept that the 219 demolition orders listed in the petition should have been executed and weren't... this is still not enough to prove that the respondents are knowingly and deliberately following a policy of non-enforcement of the building laws in east Jerusalem," wrote Zamir.

Furthermore, the justices said, the court as a rule only accepts petitions that deal with specific cases, because the outcome of a general ruling is likely to be un-

just. In this case, wrote Zamir, the petitioners are demanding the implementation of all existing demolition orders. But since many of these orders were issued as long as 20 years ago, the circumstances might have changed. Perhaps, for instance, some of the "illegal" buildings have since received permits, or are waiting for an answer on a permit application. Or perhaps the illegal building has since been sold to an innocent third party. Whatever the circumstances, each case should be considered on its individual merits, not as part of a sweeping decision, he said.

Finally, he wrote, if the court gave the order requested by the petitioners, at the very least, each of the 219 homeowners cited in

the petition would be hurt. It would therefore be improper for the court to rule without allowing them to present their cases.

"The rule is that we do not destroy anyone's house, even that of a terrorist murderer, without giving him an opportunity to plead his case," Zamir wrote.

Finally, he said, if the petitioners really object to the city's policy on illegal building, the proper place to raise their objections is the political arena - either the Knesset or the city council.

"For all the reasons given above, this petition should not have been submitted to the court in its present form," he wrote. He therefore fined the petitioners NIS 6,000, to be split among the respondents.

Poll: Most Palestinians support Cairo accords

BILL HUTMAN

A quarter of Palestinians in the territories oppose reaching a peace agreement with Israel, according to a survey sponsored by the Jerusalem Media and Communications Center released yesterday.

Overall, however, the 21-question survey showed Palestinians largely supported the Cairo agreement.

Some 58 percent said they welcomed the agreement, while 55 percent said that the return of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat made them confident and optimistic about the future.

More than 70% of the nearly 2,000 Palestinians in the territories questioned said they would support an agreement similar to that reached in Cairo for implementation elsewhere in the territories.

The survey - titled "Palestinian Attitudes to the PLO-Israeli Agreement" - was conducted by the German-based Basis-Research company, from Friday

through Sunday, for the Palestinian-run center.

The questioning in Gaza was done on the day of the Erez checkpoint riots there, but the company said this did not adversely affect the results. Company director Dr. Helmut Jung said the survey has a 3% margin of error.

Nearly 60% of those questioned said they agreed with the statement, "the PLO should try to make agreements with Israel, even if such agreements bring only slight improvements."

Some 26.9% said they agreed with the statement, "the PLO should not make any agreement with Israel."

Palestinians look highly upon their police force, but far less favorably upon their security service and government, said the survey.

Only 45% said they regarded the performance of the Palestinian council as "good," and 22% said it was "bad."

Still no spokesman for PM's Office

DAVID MAKOVSKY

THE Prime Minister's Office remains without a spokesman after two months and may remain so a while longer, as a leading candidate, Danny Shek, is likely to soon be named the next spokesman of the Foreign Ministry.

Journalists, local and foreign, have complained bitterly about the vacuum in the Prime Minister's Office that was left when the previous spokesman, Gad Ben-Ari, departed two months ago. In the meantime, Rabin's spokesman at the Defense Ministry, Oded Ben-Ami, has had to shoulder a double burden.

Shek is currently spokesman at the Israeli Embassy in Paris. "The job of being the prime minister's spokesman was braced with Shek," an aide to Rabin said. "It took him awhile to get back to us, as he had hesitations. By the time he said that he was interested, there were bureaucratic complications. I am happy for him to hear that he will be the next Foreign Ministry spokesman," the aide said.

Sources suggest that Shek found himself caught in a tug of war between Rabin's two top personal aides, with director-general Shimon Sheves blocking the move.

One idea currently floating is to have two separate spokesmen, one dealing with local press and the other with foreign press. In the meantime, the spokesman's position at the Prime Minister's Office remains vacant.

Officials in the Foreign Ministry declined comment.

Gang who robbed pizza boys to be indicted today

RAINE MARCUS

THREE suspects are expected to be indicted today by Tel Aviv Magistrates Court on charges of robbing pizza delivery boys.

Gal Eylon, 20, Liat Ashkenazi, 20, and Noam Blogorodeski, 21, of Tel Aviv were arrested and remanded last week on suspicion of ordering pizzas and then robbing small amounts of cash from the delivery boys. The thieves did not steal the pizzas, said police.

Last March the three ordered a pizza from Dominos to a Tel Aviv address. When the delivery boy

arrived, Eylon allegedly robbed him at gunpoint. The pistol was licensed and belonged to Eylon, said police.

On the same day, a gas station attendant near the Kiryat Shaul cemetery was robbed at gunpoint and police believe the robberies were carried out by the same people.

In May another Dominos pizza delivery boy was robbed when he brought pizzas to a Tel Aviv address. This time, said police, the gang used a toy gun.



Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo collects garbage from one of the city's streets yesterday as part of a municipal clean-up operation.

(Ilan Ossendriver / Israel Sun)

Talbiyeh Hospital money problems to be solved

JUDY SIEGEL

JERUSALEM'S Talbiyeh Psychiatric Hospital will not close, and its financial problems will be worked out by the Histadrut, Kupat Holim Clalit and the government as part of the health fund's general recovery plan now under discussion.

This was agreed yesterday by the Knesset labor and social affairs committee, which was discussing the financial problems affecting the hospital, which serves half of Jerusalem's area. The Capuchin order of monks, who own the land on which the Clalit property stands, is demanding NIS 1.5 million in annual leasing fees, instead of the NIS 40,000 Clalit has been paying for years. The financially pressed Clalit says it cannot pay the astronomically high fees.

Hospital director Prof. Yigal

Clalit is willing to pay the same

NIS 40,000 that it has been transferring to the monks every year, said Dr. Rami Ditzian, the health fund's deputy director-general.

Labor MK Yoram Lass charged that the Treasury continues to "try to degrade the health system; every time it's something else - this time it's Talbiyeh Hospital." Lass called for committing the government budget to cover the hospital's extra leasing costs, instead of including it under the "solution to be found through Clalit's recovery program."

'Ma'ariv' sued for publishing false sex services ad

AN Afula woman whose address and telephone number for escort services were published in a Ma'ariv ad filed a NIS 600,000 suit in Jerusalem District Court yesterday against the newspaper.

"Since the publication of the ad, my life and my family's life have become intolerable," said Inbar Sahar. "We have been disturbed by obscene phone calls throughout the day and night."

She said the ad listed her as a "prostitute" who invited the public to call her and visit her home at the address listed in the newspaper.

Sahar said the people who took out the ad aimed to take revenge against her.

In her petition, she claims that Ma'ariv, its editor, Ya'acov Erez, and the Dahaf ad agency were negligent in that they accepted the ad without checking with the person who was mentioned in it or investigating the person who had paid for it. "Those who publish such ads must be aware that they have a dangerous utensil in their hands," Sahar said.

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Bosnians keep peace decision secret

PALE (AP) - The Bosnian Serb assembly yesterday voted on an international plan for the peaceful partition of the republic in a secret ballot that sources said amounted to conditional acceptance.

Reporters were refused information on what the legislators decided. Officials said negotiators in Geneva would be informed first. But sources said that the assembly accepted it with conditions.

That likely would not satisfy its sponsors - the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Russia - who had asked for a clear-cut answer from both sides. The Muslim-dominated Bosnian Parliament on Monday voted overwhelmingly for the plan, which would give a Moslem-Croat federation 51 percent of Bosnia. Bosnian Serbs would get the rest, surrendering about a third of 70 percent of Bosnia they have captured since the war broke out 27 months ago. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said some 400,000 Bosnian Serbs would have to leave their homes.

The plan also threatens Bosnian Serbs' goal of uniting territory with Serbia proper and Serb-held areas of Croatia.

Bosnian Serb legislators appeared mostly opposed as their session began Monday in the Bosnian Serb stronghold of Pale, 20 kilometers (12.5 miles) east of Sarajevo. But the Bosnian Serb Sina news agency quoted leader Radovan Karadzic yesterday as saying the plan "will most probably be accepted, with some conditions."

Sources close to the Bosnian Serb leadership said those conditions include modification of maps that would provide for Serb access to the sea. The Serbs apparently also want a constitutional arrangement that would give them virtual autonomy in Bosnia and firm guarantees that United Nations sanctions against Yugoslavia will be lifted.

The deputies' declaration will be handed to the five-nation group in Geneva, said Miroslav Tobić, self-declared information minister of the Bosnian Serbs. The nations were to meet today.

"I'm sorry that until then we cannot say anything more," Tobić told reporters, who were then asked to leave the premises. Aleksa Buha, self-declared foreign minister, said, "Everything will be known in Geneva in two days."

If Bosnian Serbs refuse to accept the plan, the United States and its allies have threatened to exempt the Moslem-led Bosnian army from an arms embargo and tighten sanctions on neighboring Serbia for fomenting the war.

Karadzic is under pressure to accept the plan by Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic, eager to free the Serbian economy from the crushing sanctions.

"If we reject the plan, we are threatened with the continuation of the war in far more difficult circumstances for us in which Moslems would be better armed," Karadzic said Monday. "There will be a battle for life and death."

The war in Bosnia began when Moslems and Croats voted in April 1992 to secede from Serb-dominated Yugoslavia, sparking a rebellion by Bosnia's Serbs, who accounted for one-third of the population. About 200,000 people are dead or missing.

North Korea bids farewell to 'Great Leader'

DAVID BRUNNSTROM
SEOUL

NORTH Korea prepared for another day of mourning for its "Great Leader" Kim Il-sung today after millions of emotional citizens poured out frenzied tears at his funeral in Pyongyang.

North Korean state television showed Kim's funeral cortege driving slowly through the broad tree-lined boulevards of the capital yesterday amid scenes of barely-controlled hysteria.

Soldiers, schoolgirls and ordinary citizens, wailing and shaking with grief, rent their clothes and beat their fists in the air as the body of the founder of North Korea passed atop a black Lincoln limousine.

North Korean state radio estimated the size of the crowd at two million.

Memorial services were held in all provinces, cities and counties. Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported.

Consistent with the secrecy surrounding Kim during his life, details of the funeral rites were sketchy. North Korean media gave no indication of where or when he would be buried, but a memorial rally is due to be held today.

North Korean media said all citizens were asked to observe three minutes of silence during the memorial service at midday today, and factories, trains and ships instructed to sound their horns and whistles in contrasting tribute.

Voices of state television commentators broke with emotion during the funeral procession.

"We have never imagined the future without you. Our cries and



A car carrying a huge portrait of the late North Korean leader Kim Il-sung precedes the limousine bearing his coffin through the streets of Pyongyang yesterday. (AP)

sorrow are reaching all over the world. With you we enjoyed happiness and lived in paradise," said one.

"The whole country and the

capital city of Pyongyang were enveloped in the bitterest grief ever in the history of the nation spanning 5,000 years," KCNA said.

Before the procession, Kim's el-

dest son and heir-apparent Kim Jong-il, 52, presided over a solemn rite at the presidential palace where his father had lain in state in a crystal sarcophagus fol-

lowing his death, aged 82, on July 8.

Official reports said he died of a heart attack.

Pale and drawn and wearing a

simple dark tunic, the younger Kim bowed before the bier, which was spotlighted at the center of the palace's chandeliered, gilt-pillared Kumsusan Hall.

He was flanked by a delegation of senior party and state officials, a sign he is still on course to assume his father's mantle to the world's first communist dynasty's succession.

Television commentary also indicated a smooth power transfer, exhorting the late Kim not to worry as the nation would respect his son.

"You are leaving us, with all our hearts we will follow General Kim Jong-il's leadership," the commentary said.

The enormity of Kim Il-sung's quasi-religious personality cult became fully apparent when his coffin, draped with the flag of the Communist Party - the all-pervasive source of his authoritarian power - emerged on to the streets after passing a military home guard.

Lorries packed with floral tributes headed the cortege, followed by a massive portrait of a smiling, benign Kim.

A V-shaped phalanx of motorcycle outriders preceded the hearse and a long line of civilian and military vehicles.

Russia's Itar-Tass news agency said said angry mourners harangued a Russian journalist from Tass who tried to photograph the crowds.

"It was very, very emotional," O. Ashiru, the Nigerian ambassador to North Korea, told Reuters by telephone from Pyongyang. "People were crying all over the streets."

At the tense North-South Korean Cold War border, there were no similar scenes. (Reuters)

Rwandan rebels swear in new gov't, appeal for end to exodus of refugees

KIGALI (AP) - With Rwanda's civil war apparently over, victorious Tutsi rebels inaugurated a new government yesterday and urged a halt to the desperate human flight out of the country.

More than a million Rwandans have poured across the border into Zaire in the past week, and refugee officials say almost two million more are on their way. The exodus of Hutu refugees has overwhelmed relief workers.

Rebel leaders declared an end to the 14-week war Monday, saying they had swept away the last Hutu government resistance and that a truce was in place. Hutu officials fled to Zaire.

"There is no need for anyone to flee Rwanda. We guarantee all Rwandans stability and security," Maj. Gen. Paul Kagame of the Tutsi-dominated rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front said.

Yesterday, the rebels swore in moderate Hutus as prime minister and president in Kigali. The rebels have promised to set up a multiparty government including both Hutus and Tutsis.

Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu and President Pasteur Bizimungu will choose a cabinet, the rebels said.

"For my part, I feel this day is a very big day with a lot of happiness, an important day in the life

of Rwanda," Kagame said in a speech at the inaugural ceremony. "I hope it is a sign that this is the last time that we have seen such bad things in this country of ours."

Twagiramungu had been designated prime minister under a power-sharing accord last August. The accord halted the civil war, but violence flared again April 6 when President Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu, died in a mysterious plane crash. Within hours, Hutu militias began systematically killing anyone perceived to oppose the government.

Between 200,000 and 500,000 people - mostly Tutsis - were killed in the slaughter, raising fears among Hutus now fleeing the country that the rebels will seek reprisals.

Despite little evidence of widespread retaliation, as many as a million Hutu civilians and soldiers have pushed into Goma, Zaire, in the past week. An estimated 400,000 more refugees have crossed into Karamoja, Zaire from the southwest border.

Refugee officials said an estimated 1.9 million more Hutus were streaming toward the southwestern Rwandan border town of Cyangugu and had started another exodus into Bukavu, Zaire.

ROME (Reuters) - Italy's Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi bowed to pressure from rebellious coalition partners yesterday and withdrew a decree limiting judicial powers of arrest which has rocked his two-month-old government.

Government spokesman Giuliano Ferrara said the cabinet would meet yesterday evening to discuss an amended text for presentation to parliament in the form of a draft law, which will allow fuller debate than a decree.

He indicated that the changes, designed to avert a government crisis and calm a storm of public outrage, would put bribery and corruption back on the list of offenses for which suspects are liable to preventive detention in jail.

"The leaders of the coalition parties have reached an agreement on the decree," Ferrara, who has cabinet rank, told reporters.

The deal followed mounting isolation for Berlusconi, swept to triumph in elections in March as voters dumped traditional political parties disgraced in Italy's corruption scandals.

The media tycoon, who had initially backed the decree to the hilt, began climbing down Monday evening as opposition gathered force inside and outside his coalition to what critics have billed as a whitewash for corrupt old guard politicians.

"A ministerial crisis now would have only damaged the need to tackle urgent economic problems and the regular conduct of the institutional life of the country," Ferrara said.

"Out of a sense of responsibility, the leaders of the coalition are therefore proposing that the decree be rejected by the Chamber of Deputies."

He said the government would work for the replacement draft law to be approved by parliament by mid-August.

The draft would reflect "the sacrosanct principles of protecting civil liberties" contained in the original decree but would also contain amendments on "serious offenses against the public sector, such as bribery and corruption."

The deal was struck by Berlusconi and the leaders of two main parties in his coalition, Umberto Bossi of the Northern League and Gianfranco Fini of the hard right National Alliance.

Fini told reporters: "Reason has prevailed. There are neither victors nor vanquished. We are extremely satisfied."

The decree law, passed by the cabinet last Wednesday, removed bribery, corruption and other crimes from a list of offenses for which suspects can be remanded in custody.

The measure unleashed a storm of popular protest and prompted magistrates on Milan's elite pool of "Clean Hands" investigators to threaten to quit.

Both Fini and Bossi had demanded that the decree be amended or scrapped as the tide of opinion turned against the coalition.

They told Berlusconi in a letter released yesterday that the decree had generated "vast opposition" in the country and in parliament, with the result of a clear political division within the government.

More than 1,000 people were freed from prison as a result of the decree. They include several judges among them former health minister Francesco De Lorenzo, who was moved to house arrest.

It was unclear whether or when they would return to jail.

Berlusconi had postponed the decree as a charter for civil liberties, arguing that magistrates had often exceeded their powers by putting suspects in jail simply to get confessions.

Huge scar visible after asteroids smash into Jupiter

Astronomers: The most prominent feature ever seen on the face of the planet

GREENBELT, Md. (AP) - The mark left on Jupiter's clouds by fragments of a comet is the most prominent feature ever observed on the face of the solar system's largest planet, an astronomer said yesterday.

Steve Maran, an astronomer at the Goddard Space Flight Center, said a check of historical records dating back to the early 1600s show there is no previous recording of Jovian features as large as the scars left by the comet pieces.

The black scar left by fragment G of the Shoemaker-Levy 9 comet is "visually the most prominent discrete spot seen on Jupiter ever," Maran told an earlier morning news conference.

Jupiter has been observed

since 1610, early in the history of telescopes.

The impact of fragment H yesterday created a fireball that appeared to one observer to be 50 times brighter than Jupiter and a portion of the infrared light spectrum. The observation was made by a telescope in Chile.

Though this appears to be brighter than the signal produced by the larger fragment G, which hit earlier, Maran said that the relative brightness is deceptive because the readings were taken with different instruments.

Astronomers were puzzled yesterday by their failure to find the chemical signature of water in the clouds created by the comet's impacts on Jupiter.

Jupiter is 74 percent hydrogen and experts had expected that the comet would bring oxygen to the planet. The combination of the two would make water, but none has been detected.

"It's puzzling, but we will continue to look for water," said

Lucy McFadden, astronomer at the University of Maryland.

Chemical analysis of light signals from Jupiter show evidence of ammonia boiled up from the Jovian clouds. Other analyses are still under way, McFadden said.

Scientists said Monday that three fragments from the comet will hit Jupiter 10 hours apart at approximately the same location.

"You'll have three - boom, boom, boom," said Heidi Hammel of the Space Telescope Science Institute. "You are going to have one heck of a mess."

The first of the three fragments, Q, was expected to hit early today, R follows 10 hours later and S will be 10 hours after that. The Jovian rotation is 10 hours, which means the fragments will hit at nearly the same location on the planet.

Two fragments, K and L, are expected to impact yesterday. They will be the eighth and ninth fragments to hit the gas clouds of

Jupiter since the cosmic bombardment started Saturday. The last comet shard smashes the planet on Friday.

Hammel said Jupiter was hit Monday by fragment G, the largest yet of the 21 chunks of ice and rock from the broken-up comet. The impact and massive explosion left a distinctive mark in the planetary cloud tops.

"There is now a black eye on Jupiter," said Hammel. Pictures from the Hubble Space Telescope show a circle, with a black center and a smear of gray resembling a bruise.

The circular portion of the mark is 80 percent the size of Earth, proof of the power of the explosion triggered by fragment G.

All of the fragments are hitting the backside of Jupiter, as viewed from Earth, but the fireballs rise so high that the Hubble is able to spot the cloud poking above the horizon.

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Terror and democracy: A perfect imbalance

KHALED DAWOUD
CAIRO

ONCE again, government-owned newspapers were proclaiming that terrorism in Egypt was over.

Then, several weeks ago, an Islamic extremist shot and killed a plainclothes policeman in southern Egypt's Assiut province.

It can be said that the use of police counterforce to quell Moslem radicals has sharply reduced extremist violence since the end of April, as many extremist leaders have been killed or arrested.

However, many Egyptians wonder if the supposed victory over extremists will slow democratic reforms the government has promised. They ask whether the government, apparently satisfied with its crackdown, will use similar tactics against other forms of dissent.

Since coming to power in 1981, President Hosni Mubarak has repeatedly expressed a commitment to democracy but made little progress in giving people a real say. Egypt has 13 political parties, almost none with wide public support. A large army, security apparatus and bureaucracy make the government the primary influence in Egyptian society.

The government has depended mainly on force to stop those it sees as threats to its stability.

"The government now is not under the same pressure of extremism as before. Therefore, we expected it to be more willing to accept democratic reform," said Bahay el-Din Hassan, director of the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies. "What happened was the contrary."

Riot police buried tear-gas bombs at the Lawyers' Syndicate headquarters in May as attorneys protested the death of a colleague in police custody.

Lawyers were beaten with truncheons and dragged away. Some were held more than five weeks.

"Using security measures alone to deal with political problems doesn't solve anything," Hassan said. "The alternative is to encourage more democracy."

For the government, however, force seems to be working.

Since January, 104 people have been killed — 54 radicals, 39 policemen, 10 bystanders and a German tourist — but most of them died in the first four months. Since April 30, the toll is six policemen and six extremists.

ATTACKS ON banks, tourist trains, Coptic Christians and senior police officers virtually ceased after security agents arrested or killed leading members of the extreme al-Gama al-Islamiya, the Islamic Group, and Jihad, or Holy War. Leaflets threat-

ening a bloody campaign of vengeance came to nothing. Faxed threats ended in late April.

Since the confrontation began in 1992, the government has periodically declared an end to terrorism, then lost credibility when attacks increased.

The government also set its media machine to work portraying extremists as thugs and hypocrites who use religion to achieve political and personal goals.

Critics saw some of the tactics as anti-democratic efforts to justify more control of political life by citing the need to fight terrorism.

First, the government took on the 66-year-old Moslem Brotherhood, Egypt's largest and best-established Islamic group, which had been tolerated despite being technically illegal.

Because the Brotherhood had taken over most universities and professional associations in the past 15 years, the government enacted laws to control institutional elections.

Mubarak might have left the Brotherhood alone if it had supported him against extremists, but it was "largely ambiguous, offering justifications and blaming security instead of condemning terrorism," said Mesbah Qutb, a leftist writer.

Drawing fire from the opposition are two new laws that allow the government to appoint village mayors and deans of university colleges, both previously elected.

Opposition figures also criticize a "national dialogue conference" Mubarak initiated to discuss political, economic and social strategies. They had hopes for it until Mubarak said in his opening speech that the 250 members, chosen by him, would merely issue recommendations for the government to consider "according to Egypt's interests."

None of the delegates are from the Moslem Brotherhood, which says it wants a strict Islamic state created without violence.

The Brotherhood has wide support among the middle class for its long record of providing community services and preserving religious traditions. But many Egyptians doubt its commitment to democracy and suspect that, if the Brotherhood gained power, it would establish a dictatorship in the name of God.

Leaders of the movement deny any such intention.

"We consider ourselves preachers for God with the aim of implementing his laws as he ordered," said Mohammed Habib, a Brotherhood leader. "We will achieve it by peaceful, constitutional means." (AP)

Region may be in flux, but is not unstable

BOOKS

MISSIM REJWAN

THE POLITICS OF CHANGE IN THE MIDDLE EAST edited by Robert B. Satloff. Boulder, San Francisco and Oxford, Westview Press in association with the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. 238 pp. \$49/\$14.95.

SO many books are published each year dealing with every conceivable facet of contemporary Middle East politics that it is often a relief to come across a volume of shorter studies on a relatively neglected aspect of the subject. The *Politics of Change in the Middle East* is such a volume. The eight substantial contributions to the book between them cover the ground fairly comprehensively, although areas and countries like Lebanon, Turkey and the Gulf emirates are conspicuously absent. Taken together, however, the essays depict a region in flux — although not suffering from "near-congenital predisposition for instability," a commonly held perception which editor Robert Satloff rightly dubs "a myth."

As Satloff points out, threats of instability in the contemporary Middle East "are both real and imaginary, and differentiating between the two is no easy task." After all, he points out, the so-called "crisis of the 1970s" boasts the longest-ruling leaders and re-

gimes in the world, although — as he pointedly adds — "longevity and stability... are not synonymous."

It's difficult to pick and choose from the essays offered here. Ami Ayalon's "Egypt's Political Order: Continuity and Challenges" and Shaul Bakhash's "Iranian Politics Since the Gulf War" are models of their kind — informative, well organized and readable.

Also worthy of mention are Emile Nakhleh's piece on regime stability and change in Saudi Arabia; Adam Garfinkle's "The Nine Lives of Hashemite Jordan"; and Itamar Rabinovich's "Stability and Change in Syria." Amatzia Baram and Barry Rubin, on Ba'athist Iraq and the Palestinians, respectively, offer their usual high standard of information and analysis.

The chapter on Israel, contributed by Marvin Feuerwerker, focuses almost entirely on the 1992 Knesset elections and their results. Summing up, Feuerwerker says that the outcome of the 1992 elections "should be seen more as a rebuff of the Likud than as an endorsement of Labor."

This is strongly reminiscent of the conclusion drawn from the outcome of the 1977 elections — in that case, more a rebuff of Labor than an endorsement of the Likud.

Is there a pattern here?

Coptic pope claims discrimination

CAIRO — Pope Shenouda of the Egyptian Coptic Church, in an outspoken interview published this week, complained of discrimination against Copts and said "national unity" might be little more than an empty slogan.

The pope, often portrayed by the state as a symbol of harmony between Moslems and Christians, said Copts played little part in public life and faced problems building or repairing churches.

His remarks were published in the weekly Coptic newspaper *Watani*, the mouthpiece of the community.

The pope, who usually steers clear of controversy, said: "Being aware of one thing, national participation is another. The Copts feel there is no scope for them in national action."

"In the time of Saad Zaghloul [an Egyptian nationalist who died in 1927], Copts used to stand for election and win. So they took part in the nationalist movement."

"But because the Copts are beleaguered, they no longer participate... [and] a Copt rarely wins in elections because they have trouble obtaining voting cards from police stations. We all love our country even if we don't take part in political work," he added. (Agencies)



Iraqi women sell food products, which are not subject to UN sanctions, in a Baghdad market. (AP)

Foreign 'prospectors' invade Baghdad

CARYLE MURPHY
BAGHDAD

THIS isolated city has not heard so many foreign accents in a long time.

Four dozen Frenchmen led the way, streaming into Baghdad in two separate delegations peppered with corporate honchos.

Japanese, Italian and Spanish businessmen also showed up in the past month or so. As did a German parliamentary delegation, a Pakistani aviation official, and a Chinese deputy foreign minister, Wang Changyi.

These visits, along with an increasing number of high-level trips abroad by senior Iraqi officials, are the most illustrative demonstration of the waning international will to maintain the UN trade sanctions imposed on Iraq nearly four years ago when it invaded Kuwait.

Most of those who arrived came to "prospect," as one Frenchman put it, for golden deals believed just over the horizon once sanctions are lifted from this oil-rich country. Even the US interests section in Baghdad, run by the Embassy of Poland, is fielding calls from Americans inquiring about the risks of visiting.

"They say, 'We got this invitation to visit from the Iraqi government,'" one source said, "and the first question they ask is, 'Will they kill us if we come?'"

The businessmen are informed that the Iraqis will not kill them, but that the US government may prosecute them, since travel to Iraq on US passports is restricted.

Some US firms are said to be getting around this by having Iraqi visas stamped on pieces of paper, meeting Iraqi officials in Jordan or sending non-US employees to Baghdad.

THE INTERNATIONAL mood appears to have shifted into one of

anticipation that, barring unforeseen developments, the sanctions are nearing an end.

"There is no doubt that there is a trend in favor of Iraq," said a senior diplomat in Baghdad from a country that fought as part of the US-led allied force against Iraq in the 1991 Persian Gulf war.

"It's bound to lead to some relaxation or a kind of informal infringement of sanctions," he added. "It's an erosion, because sanctions are affecting other people."

That "erosion" first broke into the open during a sanctions review in March when key countries such as France, China and Russia wanted a public statement recognizing what Iraq had already done to comply with UN demands. The US blocked such a statement.

Since then, the waning of support for sanctions has been apparent in other small ways. Turkey negotiated a deal with Baghdad to flush out and repair their joint oil pipeline, closed since August 1990 — seeking Washington's approval for the deal only after the fact.

The project, which will be the first legal sale of Iraqi oil in almost four years, is expected to be approved by the Security Council this month if remaining problems are worked out, Iraqi and other sources said.

THE BIGGEST problem is Iraq's objection to a phrase demanding that humanitarian goods received from the sale of oil taken from the pipeline be "equitably distributed" throughout the country, the sources added.

A senior Iraqi official who declined to be identified said his government objected to the phrase

because it "implies Iraq discriminates in the distribution of food and medicine." He denied Baghdad is withholding these items from Iraq's Kurdish-controlled north.

In another development, Pakistan has asked the Security Council's sanctions committee for permission to run a weekly flight into Baghdad to ferry its Moslem pilgrims to Iraqi holy places. So far, the United Nations has not responded, a diplomatic source said in Baghdad.

And Russia, owed \$6 billion that it hopes to collect one day from Iraq, asked to be allowed to restart work on a power plant being built when sanctions were imposed. That request was denied.

Diplomats and other Western observers in Baghdad said financial and strategic factors, more than the sufferings of the Iraqi people, have led to diminished support for sanctions.

Helping Iraq rebuild will mean huge contracts for international firms. In addition, Iraq cannot begin repaying its prewar foreign debt of some \$70 billion, or claims for compensation arising from the war, until it can again sell oil.

Others argue it is time to admit that the "hidden agenda" of the sanctions has failed.

"If you look underneath at what was the real purpose of the sanctions, it was to get rid of Saddam Hussein and then, from one moment to another, Iraq will become a democracy," said another senior diplomat in Baghdad whose country also supported the US-led coalition.

(Washington Post)

Syria's version of Basil Fawlty retires from stage

KATE DOURIAN
DAMASCUS

DOREID al-Laham, the Arab world's most famous Syrian actor, best known for his role as a muckraking buffoon in a long-running television series, is retiring from the stage.

Laham, a diminutive man whose sprightliness belies his 61 years, says stage acting requires physical strength he no longer has.

The distinctive mustache on a face recognized by millions of Arabs is starting to turn gray, and his audiences are more critical.

Laham will best be remembered for his comic role as the bumbling Ghawwar al-Toshe, which means anarchic raider, in the popular television series entitled *The Good Morning Hotel*, similar to the British comedy series *Fawlty Towers*.

As Ghawwar, Laham played the character of a wily hotel employee trying to win the love of the beautiful proprietress, Fattouma, by concocting ingenious capers to discredit his rival, the educated if portly Hosni.

Laham adopted a very broad Syrian accent and donned open-toed wooden clogs and a fez for the role. He brewed his plots in a cafe modeled after the tea houses of the old city in Damascus, where men spend hours playing backgammon and swapping anecdotes, or in the social milieu of its public baths.

The chemistry between the actors and the true-to-life street scenes around which the plot revolved made it a big hit. The show ran for 20 years and is still being repeated.

"It was good clean comedy and farce," says Laham, surrounded by dozens of awards honoring his role as Syria's thespian ambassa-

dor to Arab communities from Sydney to Los Angeles. He says the show made the Syrian dialect familiar to all Arabs.

"It gives me great pleasure when a four-year-old calls me Ghawwar," says Laham, proud of the show's perennial success but eager to present himself as a serious actor also.

Laham, who has a degree in chemistry, defied his parents when he took up acting, which he says was not considered a respectable profession in the 1960s.

"I was the clown in the family," he chuckles, referring to his nine brothers and sisters, none of whom followed in his footsteps. Nor have his three children.

The award-winning actor has performed in and directed scores of plays and films in a career spanning 34 years, interrupted by a month in prison in the late 1970s for an irreverent play in which he mocked Syria's telephone system. It was also the last play his mother saw before she died.

The bespectacled Laham says politics is not his game, but as a nationalist he believes in justice for the individual.

"A bird in a cage will always try to escape, no matter how well you feed it and take care of it," he says. "It's the same with people. You can't call this politics but a self-examination of the rights of man."

Political drama is no longer suited to today's audiences, he says.

"Unfortunately, people in the Arab world are no longer interested in big issues. Twenty years ago if you staged a play on Arab unity, for example, people would applaud for hours. Now they would just laugh," Laham says. (Reuters)

US Moslems pan 'reel Arabs'

WASHINGTON — American Moslem groups have launched a campaign to tell moviegoers that Arnold Schwarzenegger's new blockbuster motion picture unfairly stereotypes Arabs, Moslems and women.

True Lies, starring Schwarzenegger and described as Hollywood's first \$100 million film, has opened in major US cities. Its Washington opening was greeted by two dozen marching protesters with placards that echoed lines from Schwarzenegger's pictures.

The picture is an elaborate remake of Claude Zidi's 1992 French comedy *La Totale*.

"Open Your Eyes and Terminate the Lies," "Hasta La Vista Fairness," "Not All Arabs Are Terrorists, Not All Terrorists Are Arabs," "Arnold, Think Before You Act," and "Real Arabs are not Real Arabs" were among the messages.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations, one of four sponsoring organizations, said similar "educational" demonstrations were scheduled in at least 10 other cities.

The Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee said it was asking the National Organization of Women to join the protests.

True Lies unfairly stereotypes not only Moslems but also women, relegating them to the status of "airheads and bimboes," AADC

President Albert Mokhiber said in a talk ending the half-hour Washington demonstration.

In *True Lies*, Schwarzenegger plays a spy, whose wife is played by Jamie Lee Curtis. They battle Arab-speaking "Middle East terrorists." Reviewers were impressed by the picture's costly and compelling action sequences. Some describe other episodes and the plot as funny, or silly.

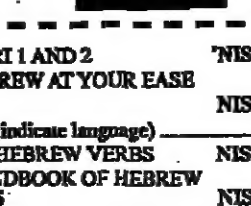
Demonstration sponsors said they were not seeking censorship or to discourage people from attending. One purpose was to get filmgoers to be aware of stereotyping and "try to think of how you would feel if your ethnic or religious group" was so portrayed, said one of their leaflets.

"Arab/Moslem characters in *True Lies* are treated as subhuman worthy only of a gruesome death," it said.

Sponsors said 20th Century Fox, distributors of the picture, agreed to place a disclaimer at the beginning of *True Lies*, but it was placed after the credits, shown when many filmgoers have usually left the theater.

The film is a work of fiction and does not represent the actions or beliefs of a particular culture or religion," said the disclaimer. The office of Fox spokeswoman Andrea Jaffe said it was limiting all comment on the issue to that same single sentence. (AP)

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Terrorism unabated

LIKE the riot at the Erez checkpoint on Sunday and the Buenos Aires bombing Monday, yesterday's killing of an Israeli officer near Rafiah served notice that the government's announcements about the waning of terrorism were premature.

It would be easy to blame all these actions on Islamic fundamentalism. The Erez riots erupted as a result of Hamas incitement; the Buenos Aires enormity was committed by an Islamic group, probably affiliated with the Hizbullah; and Izzadin Kassam - the military arm of the Hamas - has taken responsibility for the killing of Lieutenant Guy Ovadia.

But it would be foolhardy to assume that a few Moslem fanatics can wage a sustained war against Israel and world Jewry without the moral, logistic and financial support of Middle East regimes, and it would be irresponsible to deny that the Palestinian population is supportive of, or at least sympathetic to the terrorists' activities.

The unpleasant fact is that the Erez rioters could not have acted without the full cooperation of the Palestinian Police, a force loyal to Yasser Arafat and presumably dedicated to ending violence. Nor does the willingness of hundreds of laborers to take part in the burning, looting, shooting and stone-throwing indicate that the terrorists are an isolated group in Gaza, hostile to the will of the majority.

Even the Jordanians, now willing to entertain Bezek and Israeli journalists, have been reluctant to unequivocally condemn the bombing in Argentina. By using the old, evasive formula - "we deplore all attacks on innocent civilians" - in the face of this cowardly, heinous crime against men, women and children in a distant land they dodged

the responsibility of all decent people everywhere. Such acts must be condemned specifically, directly and straightforwardly.

Nor is it encouraging to realize that yesterday's terrorist attack on the IDF patrol was, as the commander of the southern Gaza brigade put it, a well-planned operation, expertly executed with great sophistication. To plan such operations carefully and meticulously, the attackers must have at least passive help from the local population.

Israel has been assured that the Palestinian Police are in pursuit of the culprits. But the fact is that the Hamas cadres in Gaza have not been disarmed, and that Palestinian policemen have been seen joining their rowdy anti-agreement demonstrations. Moreover, the PLO has made a mockery of Israel's right, according to the agreement, to have veto power over who may join the police. Known murderers of Israelis are now members of the force.

If the government does not wish to have repetitions of the Erez and Rafiah incidents, and if it does not want the self-rule areas to become havens for terrorists, it must demand that the Palestinian Authority compensate Israel for the enormous damage at Erez, punish the policemen who were identified among the Erez rioters and seen shooting at Israeli soldiers and civilians, and disarm the Hamas in Gaza and Jericho. The Palestinians should also be made to report on their efforts to apprehend killers known to have escaped into their area.

It may be a great relief not to have Israeli soldiers chase stone-throwers in the alleys of Gaza's refugee camps. But it will be difficult to discern the advantages of withdrawal if, instead, Israeli soldiers are to be killed with impunity.

Fury of a nation scorned

PRIME Minister Silvio Berlusconi, probably the most inexperienced politician in Europe, has just walked into a brick wall of real politics. While cynical comments are often made about the ease with which politicians bend with the wind, Berlusconi's run-in with Italian public opinion has come close to proving how easily those who don't bend are swiftly broken.

Last week, Berlusconi issued a decree barring prosecutors from jailing suspects during investigations. The prime minister's intention was highly honorable - it was a civil rights move to protect the rights of the accused. Considering he swept to power after only three months in politics on a wave of Italian outrage over the endless corruption scandals that tore through the country, it was remarkable that Berlusconi failed to anticipate the reaction to his decree.

The public saw it as a betrayal of the vast investigation. Since February 1992, prosecutors have implicated more than 3,000 political and business figures in systematic corruption that for decades allowed them to line their pockets with billions of dollars from the public purse. The fact that Italy of late has been calm, contented and wallowing in World Cup fever obviously lulled Berlusconi into thinking the election had healed his nation's soul. World Cup or no, the national

fury that crashed on Berlusconi's head as 124 of the despised corrupt officials walked free has surprised no one but himself. He has been forced to make that most abject of political responses and withdraw the decree.

The irony is that if Berlusconi were leader of a newly emerged east European state who had stopped the jailing of suspects accused of non-violent crimes for months before trial, he would have been hailed as a herald of enlightenment for doing away with a violation of civil liberties.

Another irony is that the Italian justice system is under question, but not for the detention laws Berlusconi sought to ease. The real question, as the public has forcefully reminded him, is how so many crimes went unsolved for so long and how corrupt officials and governments reigned with impunity without even the most basic checks and balances of a democracy enmeshing them.

Berlusconi said it was unfair to jail white-collar suspects before trial in a legal system where cases can drag on for years. The public says it is unfair that 124 corruption suspects have been released, including some of the most notorious, and 1,165 suspects in all have been freed. The public is right in this case. Where Berlusconi said the law must be fair, the Italians have unequivocally answered that justice must first be seen to be done.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HABONIM ANNIVERSARY

Sir, - Your readers who were once members of Habonim, Habonim-Dror and Mishmar Habonim Great Britain and Ireland will be interested to know that we are holding a 65th anniversary reunion on September 25 at Beit Berl.

Apart from this, we are also carrying out a survey of all those who were once members of these movements in order to ascertain how many and who the members were and what their contribution is to Anglo-Jewry and Israel.

At the same time, we are hoping to obtain additional material for the movement archives. These archives are stored at Yad Tabenkin and contain documents going back to some of the original memoranda written by Weisley Aron and which led to the foundation of the movement. However, there are still many documents missing.

We hope your readers will contact us at P.O. Box 650, Ra'anana, Tel. 09-433192, so that we can include them in our mailing lists both for the reunion and the survey and to arrange to collect any archive material they may have.

AVRAHAM GREENSPAN,
Chairman, Organizing Committee,
Habonim UK 65th Anniversary
Reunion
Ra'anana.

THE VOLUNTARY TOURIST SERVICE

Sir, - I should like your readers to know about one aspect of the wonderful help given to visitors by the Voluntary Tourist Service.

Before leaving the US for a few months' stay in Israel, I was requested by an acquaintance to try to locate the grave of her great-grandmother, who had come to the Holy Land in the last century. She had been a member of an American Christian farming colony, which settled in Jaffa in the 1860s, and had died and was buried somewhere there.

Feeling at a complete loss, I approached Mrs. Tony Morgenstern, the president of the Voluntary Tourist Service, after reading about her organization in a tourist magazine. This kind and most efficient lady, after numerous phone calls to churches in Jaffa and Jerusalem, finally found Mr. John Clayton of the Anglican Church, who gave her the address. She then literally led me by the hand through the alleyways of old Jaffa, until we finally came upon the disused and dilapidated graveyard.

I was thus able to take photos of the grave of Phoebe Drisko Norton (who had died at the age of 39) and send them back to her great-granddaughter.

NORM HOLLIS
Tel Aviv (Tulsa, Oklahoma).

INCITEMENT AT DEMONSTRATION

Sir, - The point which the right-wing mass demonstration intended to make was: no to Palestinian sovereignty in part of Jerusalem. One of the participants was the mayor of the town, Ehud Olmert, who claims to be also the mayor for the 100,000 Palestinians who live in East Jerusalem. The demonstration's bloodthirsty banner, to say the least, did not contribute to this point of view, and did not especially encourage the Palestinians to feel good under Israeli rule.

The ending of the demonstration in violence against property of the inhabitants of East Jerusalem came as a surprise to nobody.

The speakers at this demonstration - the main right-wing leadership - seemed to have only one thing in mind: how to please the most extreme among their supporters. They should be held responsible for what resulted from their inciting words; it is ridiculous - after all that we saw and heard them say on radio and television direct from Zion Square - to hear them now hide behind the "hooligans" argument.

If anybody still needed a proof that Jerusalem is not a united city, here it was. And the fact that the mayor of Jerusalem is not the mayor of the Palestinians, against whom this demonstration turned, should be considered by now an established fact.

REBECCA KELLER
Holon.



No kisses for Arafat

GERALD STEINBERG

THE debate over the effort by four PLO officials responsible for the 1974 Ma'alot school murders to enter Gaza in Arafat's motorcade highlights the moral issues inherent in the peace process.

These individuals, as well as those who planned the murder of the Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics, have Jewish blood on their hands. For Israelis, their acts permanently disqualify them from being partners in peaceful coexistence.

The crisis was resolved when the four returned to Egypt. But the moral issue remains.

If participating in murder is disqualification from being a peace partner, then these four men are no different from Yasser Arafat. He ordered the kidnapping of the children in Ma'alot and the murder of the Israeli athletes. But government officials like Foreign Minister Peres and his deputy Yossi Beilin ignore the moral issues, focusing exclusively on "pragmatic politics." The PLO is seen as the representative of moderate Palestinians, and Arafat as the only leader with whom Israel can negotiate a settlement.

Most government members, foreign diplomats and journalists aren't interested in, or are simply incapable of grasping the very real concerns of morality and justice that the victims of terror and the wider Israeli public cannot ignore. For some time, Prime Minister Rabin was the only exception. At the September 13 signing ceremony in Washington, his body language indicated his clear reluctance to shake Arafat's bloodstained hand.

But since then, and particularly at his last meeting with Arafat in Paris, Rabin has seemed to narrow his earlier moral distance. While he did order the eviction of the four PLO officials linked to Ma'alot, he chose to emphasize their having entered illegally, in violation of the Cairo agreement, rather than their responsibility for heinous acts.

Rabin also indicated that when the PLO finally repealed the clauses in its covenant calling for the destruction of Israel, the ban on these and other terrorists would be lifted. The ethical "laissez-passer" the government awarded Arafat took even the Clinton administration by surprise. American officials had maintained their distance

to fight the Nazis, despite the immorality of London's policies limiting the immigration of Jews to Eretz Yisrael and preventing Jewish self-defense against Arab terror.

Pragmatism took precedence over morality, but that didn't mean that moral issues were of no consequence.

Relations between the leaders of the Yishuv and the Mandatory authorities were businesslike; but in sharp contrast to Chaim Weizmann, Ben-Gurion consistently reminded both Jews and the British of the immorality of the latter's policies.

The government and the supporters of the peace process have tried to compare negotiations with Arafat to the Egyptian-Israeli talks involving Anwar Sadat. The Egyptian leader was responsible for the Yom Kippur War, which took thousands of lives (far more than those lost to terrorism), and he expressed support for the Nazis during World War II. However, when Sadat came to Jerusalem in 1977, ready to negotiate a peace treaty, his past actions were forgotten or forgiven.

But there are important moral differences between Arafat and Sadat. Sadat was never a terrorist, an indiscriminate murderer of civilians. In the context of international relations, his actions were legitimate, however violent. Arafat's were not. There is a vast difference between war and terrorism.

At best, negotiations between Israeli leaders and Arafat are pragmatic political efforts designed to lower the level of violence and terrorism. But these negotiations cannot erase decades of heinous crimes, or require that the basic demands of justice and morality be forgotten.

There is no reason for Rabin and Peres to embrace Arafat.

The writer directs research on security and arms control at the BESA Center for Strategic Studies, Bar-Ilan University.

The settlers' Maginot line

JON SIMONS

A few weeks ago, the settlers' movement mobilized large crowds to protest Yasser Arafat's visit to Gaza and Jericho. That visit passed without incident on the Palestinian side, but with acts of vandalism by Jewish rightist extremists in the Old City.

Last week, Arafat assumed permanent residence as head of the Palestinian Authority. It was no longer his presence that aroused controversy, but that of four Palestinians known to have taken part in armed attacks on Israelis.

During that week, the dominant image of the settlers' movement was again that of its extremists, abusing army officers and illegally occupying apartments in Kiryat Arba.

Why are the settlers now unable to translate events such as the recent murder of Sarit Prigal into wider public support? Why is their political position being gradually eroded, even though support for the government is not growing?

The basic answer lies in the dynamics - or inertia - of the peace process by stages, coupled with the traditional tendency of the Israeli public to trust its government's security and foreign policy.

Recognition of the PLO was a bitter pill to swallow, but swallowed it was. The settlers had warned us that armed Palestinian police would be disastrous for Jews. Riots at the Erez crossing point have shown that they are hardly the most adept police force, but they are far from demons. What was thought to be unthinkable has become normality. The same is true of Arafat's presence.

The settlers and the right cannot do much to obstruct this gradual process of normalization. Nor can

they mobilize significant support from the uncommitted Likud voter in the absence of repeated armed attacks on Israelis.

In the final analysis, the settlers have only one strategy, which they could deploy effectively to halt the process. Israelis who are untouched by the messianic, religious ideology of redemption through settlement of the land will not remain indifferent to the forced evacuation of settlements. At this stage, the settlers will appear as the victims, engaged in nonviolent resistance to a cruel government evacuating them from their homes.

Yet reliance on this final line of defense will not halt the peace process. Settlers barricaded in their homes will be like the French relying on the famous Maginot line. By the time the enemy reaches that point in full force, it will be too late.

THE PLAN for evacuating the settlements is to wait until Palestinian autonomy has been operat-

ing more or less smoothly around the settlements, so that the public no longer sees any compelling reason not to transfer authority over the territories to the Palestinians.

If, as will almost assuredly be the case, the Palestinians demand the evacuation of the settlements as part of the final peace agreement, the settlers will be seen as what Peace Now has always claimed they are: obstacles to peace.

Creeping awareness of the weakness of their situation is pushing more people on the right toward extremism. Even some of the more moderate action on the streets does not bode well for the right. Blocking the road from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv is attention-drawing, but hints that in the near future the same people will be blocking the road to peace. Vandalism in the Old City and spitting on soldiers shows that the settlers already feel their isolation.

Ironically, extreme actions which are supposed to be desperate calls for support boomerang and alienate wider support. But if the right's realization that the settlers will be alone in their last line of defense is growing, then, like all zealots, they will take comfort in the righteousness of their isolation.

Convinced that they are right, but that the majority are deaf to their just claims, the settlers' actions will become increasingly desperate. In that case, their Maginot defense line will become their Masada. And the isolation of the Zealots dictates that Masada is always doomed to fall.

The writer teaches political science at the Hebrew University.

Hitler hit

BEATE RUHM VON OPPEN

WHEN the first news fragments about the failed attempt to kill Adolf Hitler came over the ticker tape in the afternoon of July 20, 1944, it was almost unbearably exciting. I was working in the Political Intelligence Department of the British Foreign Office. We had a machine that gave us intercepts of the German town agency.

I listened to Hitler's midnight broadcast. There was, alas, no doubt about it - it was his voice. He denounced the "tiny clique" of traitorous, ambitious and stupid officers who had tried to rob the German people of its leadership and way of life. The traitors would be exterminated mercilessly.

The next day, there seemed to be a silver lining in the cloud of disappointment when official word spread in London that the failure of the plot might be a good thing. Success might have made a martyr of Hitler and might not have broken his spell.

Ten years later, in July 1954, Theodor Heuss, the first president of the Federal Republic, called the desperate and costly attempt to overthrow the Nazi regime a "gift to Germany's future." It was, I should say, a gift to humanity at large. For, despite the surprises

The attempt, 50 years ago today, to overthrow the Nazi regime was a gift to humanity

obvious diplomatic use made of "other Germans" who hid down their lives for a better Germany and a better Europe, despite the usefulness of "the German resistance" as fig leaf and olive branch after the war, there is more involved than Germany and its image in the world.

It was not a foregone conclusion that killing Hitler, even if possible, was the best thing to do - though it would free the soldiers from the oath of loyalty they had all sworn to him personally.

But the young Protestant theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer thought that killing Hitler would be an "act of liberation," freeing the Germans from their stupefaction with the Nazi display of power. So he and his brother-in-law, Hans von Dohnanyi, were part of the circle of plotters. They were both members of the Abwehr, the military intelligence service, protected by its head, Adm. Wilhelm Canaris, and in league with his most active right-hand man and plotter, Hans Oster.

One of their good works - the successful transfer of a small group of Jews to Switzerland under the guise of German intelligence agents - led to Bonhoeffer's and von Dohnanyi's arrest in April 1943, and to a serious weakening of the Abwehr. Bonhoeffer, Dohnanyi, Oster and Canaris were executed two years later. They were among the hundreds killed in connection with the plot, who were by no means all members of the military.

ALTHOUGH the Cold War and the division of Germany and Europe are over, their after-effects are still with us. Divisions between left and right, even of East and West, persist, straining German cooperation, memories of the anti-Hitler resistance.

The Allies called the events of July 20 a "Generals' Plot." It was a misnomer. Obviously, generals were needed if there was to be any chance of overthrowing the Nazi regime.

But the literature on the German resistance to the Nazis has made it clear how hard it was to recruit more than a few generals to the cause. In the end, it was left to a colonel, Claus Schenk von Stauffenberg, to apply the final impetus. And it turned out that he had to be in two places at once: planting the bomb in Hitler's headquarters in East Prussia, and directing the coup in Berlin. It was obvious: the chances were slim. But the desperate attempt had to be made - even if it was likely to fail.

The cost in lives was terrible. Peter Yorck von Wartenburg, the co-founder of the Kreisau Circle that worked on plans for a better future, joined in the conspiracy in January 1944, as did other Kreisauers. Yorck was one of the accused in the first of the ghastly People's Court trials that followed the assassination attempt. His last letter before his execution speaks of atonement for "the guilt we all bear." He gave his life in expiation of the crimes of the regime he had fought.

And that, surely, is the significance of the attempt of July 20, 1944: There were people who tried to end the abomination, though there was hardly any chance of success; and the sacrifice of their lives was a demonstration of the spirit of humanity in an inhuman age.

The writer teaches at St. John's College, (Los Angeles Times)

If children cross the threshold of death's door

Bereaved parents have few places to turn to. Some look to the US and England for support, Judith Sudilovsky writes

WHEN Sandra Perlman, 34, received her new identity card from the Interior Ministry, her son's name had been added to it. But her late daughter Nava's name had disappeared. Nava had died four years before, at the age of three, of a rare cancer-like disease. Her name remained on the card when Perlman sent it in to have her first son's name added, six months after Nava's death.

But when Perlman sent the card in to have her second son's name registered a year ago, the Interior Ministry tore out the original page and inserted a new one listing her children — except for Nava.

"They had my oldest daughter's name and my two sons' names, but it was as if Nava had never existed. I was hysterical. If I had known, I would've asked them to just let me have the page. I have so little left of my daughter," she said.

Maybe if there had been a bereaved parents' support group, it could have warned her about that, said Perlman, who tried without success to start a group in the Beit She'an Valley area of her kibbutz, Ein Hanatziv. Numerous other attempts to start support groups for bereaved parents by therapists and parents have failed.

The latest to attempt to form a group is Felicity Amoch, 53, of Jerusalem, whose only children, daughters Agillah, 20, and Amy, 18, were killed in a car accident three years ago. Amoch put an ad in the paper and eight couples responded. They met a few times but now mainly function as a telephone support network.

Shelly and Jeffrey Allon of Jerusalem also could not find a support system here after their first son, Elisha, was stillborn 10 years ago.

They tried to start a group for parents who had lost children through miscarriages or stillbirths. Twelve families attended the first meeting, but it quickly dwindled to a core group of three couples.

So the Allons formed Yad Elisha and with some funding from Alef, the Israel Association for the Bereaved, published a booklet in Hebrew and in English to guide parents and friends through miscarriage, stillbirths and neonatal death.

Couples who have lost children through miscarriage, stillbirth or neonatal death go through a grieving process and need support, said



Shelly, 35, who gave birth to the Allons' fifth child earlier this month. Often, however, they feel pressure from people around them to get on with their lives, she said.

PARENTS SAY that just because people don't show up to a support group doesn't mean there is no need for one.

"At first it's too painful to come [to a group], and then later it's just too painful to go back," Perlman said. "I can't use the word for bereaved parents in Hebrew — *horim shakulum* — because there is the connotation that the term is [just] for the army, and that's not true."

What is lacking, said Gary Lown-Klein, 42, whose three-year-old daughter Jennifer died six years ago of a viral heart disease, is a strong outreach program for bereaved parents because they are in an emotional situation where they can't or won't seek help.

Rami Bar-Giora, director of the Ilan Child Guidance Clinic in Jerusalem, agreed. It is very rare that social workers offer a service which hasn't been requested, said Bar-Giora, a bereaved parent who preferred not to discuss his recent loss.

But, said Jerusalem therapist Mike Roskin, who is also national chairman of Alef, sometimes all the outreach in the world is not enough to break down a bereaved

parent's resistance to therapy. A few years ago he spoke to 23 bereaved parents at length in an attempt to start a group. In the end, only three couples showed up, he said.

"It takes a lot of courage [to open up]. People are afraid to express their feelings to themselves and to others," Roskin said. "But there is a tremendous need for support groups. Hopefully professionals have the ability to assess that need."

DR. RUTH MALKINSON, a lecturer at Tel Aviv University's social work school and organizer of a recent conference on "Bereavement in Israel" hosted by the university, said the National Insurance Institute reaches out to widows and widowers because of the Law of the Survivor, which stipulates that the state must provide some financial support to the surviving partner.

Once these people are reached for financial help, they can also be provided with emotional support, Malkinson said. But since parents are not covered by this law, nobody seeks them out.

Lown-Klein and his wife Linda, 43, found the initial help they needed through Compassionate Friends and Alive Alone, whose addresses were listed at the back of a book.

The Lown-Kleins joined the two groups, which are based in the US and England. The Lown-

Kleins attended their first Alive Alone conference in the US last September.

"It was the first time we were with a group of people who were feeling what we were feeling, and we did not feel like freaks," said Linda, who 10 months ago gave birth to another daughter. "It was an extremely draining 2½ days, but I came away from it with inner strength."

While there is a strong support network in this country for parents whose children have died in the military — there is a special department in the Defense Ministry for bereaved parents — the same sort of system is missing for other bereaved parents, Linda Lown-Klein said.

IN THE child oncology and child intensive-care wards of most hospitals, there are social workers whose job it is to help the parents, siblings and the child patient deal with the possible death of the youngster. If the child dies, however, it is not their role to counsel the parents and family through the grieving process.

The social workers usually have a final meeting with the parents to help them review the period of their child's illness. Many parents feel guilty that they didn't do enough to help their child, said Flori Goldstein, a social worker in the child oncology ward at the Children's Medical Center in Petah Tikva. The last session with the social worker gives them the opportunity to look at things more objectively, she said.

Parents are welcome to stay in touch with the social worker, but there is no outreach program. Some parents call once or twice, but most don't call at all. If they seem to need more individualized attention, the social worker will refer them to a counselor at the NII or the social-work office of their municipality, Goldstein said.

"Parents don't come and ask for help directly, but we know from the feedback we receive from our social workers that the final meeting with the parents is not enough," said Chava Rosenbaum, director of the social-work department at the Children's Medical Center.

"We know some parents need support and in indirect ways they say it is easier for them to talk to people whom they already know rather than to start with a new therapist."

The social-work department of the Medical Center is now developing a support-group system for bereaved parents, she said. With any luck the group will begin functioning within six months, and if it succeeds they would like to eventually see it expand to sites outside the hospital.

Malkinson and the Tel Aviv University School of Social Work will also begin organizing a support group for bereaved parents at the beginning of the academic year. She hopes that it will meet with more success than her attempt a few years ago, when she and two graduate students tried putting together a group. They advertised in newspapers and on

television, but in the end only five couples came.

"I don't know what the reason was, but it's worth continuing to help the parents change their attitudes," she said. English-speaking Israelis aren't necessarily more open to the idea than their native counterparts, she added. "If this was true, then we should have been flooded by Anglo applicants, but that didn't happen."

GROUP THERAPY is not for everybody. For some people individual therapy is more helpful, at least in the beginning. Later, they try to seek out others who are in the same situation to share experiences, Bar-Giora said.

One can seek private counseling through the NII, one of the health funds or the social-services office, but not every therapist has the right experience to deal with this delicate subject. Parents should ask around for recommendations, and if they are not comfortable with a therapist they should go to another one until they find one who fits their needs, said Dr. Michael Dolgin, a clinical psychologist and consultant to the Children's Medical Center.

After their daughter died, the Lown-Kleins continued seeing their therapist, but he was not geared toward their problem. "He had three kids and when we would go there, we would hear him talking about the problem he had because his son was going into the army. I would think, 'I wish I had that problem,'" Gary Lown-Klein said.

Marriage may die if child does

FELICITY Amoch sits in her Jerusalem living room, where portraits of her dead daughters are prominently displayed.

"Losing a child changes the natural order of things. It's not normal for them to go before you," said Amoch, wearing one of the girls' sweaters.

Agillah, 20, and Amy, 18, died in a car accident three years ago. "One day you feel like you're active in the world, you have children... Then suddenly all that stops and you fall off."

Friends and family also have difficulty facing the death of a child. Often they have preconceived ideas of how a bereaved father and mother should react: The man will be strong and the woman will collapse. But that is not always the case.

When their son Elisha was stillborn, Shelly Allon closed up and couldn't talk about what had happened. Her husband Jeffrey, 39, was very depressed and needed to talk. An artist, he sketched a portrait of Elisha after he was born. The drawing now forms an important part of the small memory book they made to keep the few things they have of Elisha.

"Even when people were trying to be supportive they would ask Jeffrey 'How is your wife?' No one would ask how he was doing," Shelly said.

After their three-year-old daughter Jennifer's death, many well-meaning people told Gary and Linda Lown-Klein they could have other children. It was, to say the least, the wrong thing to say.

"Never try to look for something positive in the death of a child," Linda said. "It is the worst thing that can happen. I couldn't think of having another child for years."

Friends who want to help bereaved parents should not try to avoid the subject, Amoch said. Instead, they should bring it up naturally, giving the parents a chance to talk about their feelings and about the child before the topic becomes a barrier to an open relationship.

Her husband Jacques, 59, wanders in and out of the living room during an interview. Sometimes he sits down next to his wife, but he rarely looks at her. There is unspoken tension between them.

She says he blames her for their daughters' deaths. He says he doesn't, but he points out, it was Felicity who encouraged the girls to come here while the parents were still living in Canada.

Conflict between a couple whose child has died is the rule rather than the exception, said Jerusalem therapist Mike Roskin, who is also national chairman of Alef, the Israel Association for the Bereaved. In the US about 80 percent of all couples whose child has died get divorced, he said. He knows of no such statistics for this country.

"It's hard to be supportive of the other person when you yourself are feeling down and there is no one else to talk to or if that's normal," Gary Lown-Klein said. "We were both angry. I was angry at her when she got depressed because then she would bring me back down with her. We each had to deal with it on our own way."

After a child dies, spouses usually are unable to give each other the needed support, Roskin said. A good therapist and strong support from friends and other parents who have lost children can help a couple deal with their pain and save their marriage. J.S.

Parents need help to heal surviving children

A parent normally is there to help a child deal with life's blows, said Rami Bar-Giora, director of the Ilan Child Guidance Clinic in Jerusalem and a bereaved parent.

But when one of their children dies, parents are often not capable of helping their surviving children. In such a situation parents need to ask for help.

There are child-guidance clinics in every city and the various health funds and National Insurance Institute offices can direct parents to appropriate therapists.

A surviving sibling can have deep feelings of guilt over a brother's or sister's death. They may remember the times they got mad at him and wished he would die. They remember the anger and jealousy they felt when their sibling got all the attention because he was sick, said Dr. Michael Dolgin, a clinical psychologist and consultant to the Children's Medical Center.

Hospital social workers work with siblings to explain what is happening to the sick child during his hospitalization. After the death, parents should also try to help the surviving children understand what has happened, Dolgin said.

The Children's Medical Center has a group for siblings of children who have died. Children need to be permitted to grieve in their own way, Dolgin said. Grief may take many forms. A child may cry one minute and then run out to play the next. He may regress, become demanding and clingy, or become very angry, Dolgin said.

"Parents need to convey that the family's relationship with the sibling who has died has not ceased. They can give surviving children a special possession of the brother or sister who has died," Dolgin said. "The family can continue to celebrate the child's birthday as a way of commemorating the child and conveying that, when the family is ready, life goes on... even though it is never quite the same." J.S.

Whom the bereaved call when grief calls them

ALF, the Israel Association for the Bereaved, has an open telephone line for all bereaved people, including parents.

They get about 50 calls a year from widows, widowers, siblings and parents, said National Chairman Mike Roskin (02-437301). Much of their work is centered in the Jerusalem area because that's where most of the active members live, he said.

Yad Elisha was formed about 10 years ago by Shelly and Jeffrey Allon (02-632213) after their son

Elisha was stillborn. (In Hebrew, 02-908312 for Arie and Netta Porat.) They now mainly serve as a telephone network, but they also published a Hebrew/English booklet to guide parents and friends on miscarriage, stillbirths and neonatal death. They receive about two calls a month.

In Tel Aviv, Ben Zion Kryger (03-528-2071) started Yad Lenitafim after his 21-year-old son Yoav was killed in a motorcycle accident in 1986. The volunteer organization (also Nurit Ofc, 03-673-6256), which has a member-

ship of 400 families, is a self-help group for anybody who has suffered a death in the family because of a traffic accident.

They sponsor a support group in Tel Aviv and another one in Haifa, but neither group is geared specifically toward bereaved parents. There is no group in Jerusalem because they have received no requests from the capital, Kryger said.

Felicity Amoch, who has tried to form a support group for bereaved parents, can be reached at 02-610023. J.S.

25 years later: The moon is a neglected heavenly body

EARL LANE WASHINGTON

WHILE public interest in the Apollo program began to wane even before the last astronaut left the moon, researchers still vie eagerly today for access to 374 precious kilos of rocks returned from six moon landings.

More than 60 scientists worldwide continue to study samples from the cache of moon rocks stored in a stainless steel vault at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Along with data from instruments left on the moon, the secrets of those rocks represent a lasting scientific legacy from Apollo.

They have helped scientists explore questions about the origin and evolution of Earth's closest neighbor — and, by extension, Earth itself.

At the same time, experts say, Apollo created an early climate of good feeling and budgetary support for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

science community, there is great enthusiasm," says Carle Pieters, a geoscientist at Brown University, Rhode Island. She's hopeful that NASA will fund some robotic missions back to the moon as a part of its Discovery program, aimed at mounting science missions costing \$150 million or less.

Others are more pessimistic. "Nobody at NASA wants to do anything," says Paul Spudis, a staff scientist at the Lunar and Planetary Institute in Houston. He said some senior researchers and NASA officials seem more interested in robotic missions to Mars or other planets than a return to the moon.

Yet, despite the wealth of data from the Apollo era, Spudis says, "the entire geological history of the moon is largely an unwritten book. We have a vague outline of what it looks like, but we don't know the details."

THE APOLLO missions turned up some scientific surprises almost immediately. During the first moonwalks on the dark, gray Sea of Tranquility, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin of Apollo 11 gathered samples of the regolith, the lunar soil composed of loose debris kicked up by meteorite impacts. The samples contained some white stones and pebbles, some of which proved to be cal-



Neil Armstrong enjoys Sunday's airshow in New Knoxville, Ohio, celebrating the 25th anniversary of his walk on the moon. (AP)

cium-rich rocks called anorthosites.

John A. Wood of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics and Joseph V. Smith of the University of Chicago suggested that these rocks had been scattered onto the lunar lowlands by

meteorites blasting into the light-colored lunar highlands.

Subsequent exploration of the highlands by later Apollo missions proved that the hills were, indeed, rich in anorthosites. But why? Wood and Smith proposed that the material might have floated to the top of what once was a molten ocean of rock called magma that covered the moon to a depth of perhaps 400 km. The magma ocean proposal is now generally accepted, scientists said.

Using isotopic dating methods, scientists studying the moon rocks brought back to Earth learned that the moon was formed about 4.5 billion years ago, the same age as the Earth. The rock samples also showed that the moon was geologically active until about 2 billion years ago.

But larger questions remain about the moon's origin. Before Apollo, there were three major theories. One held that the moon, formed elsewhere in the solar system, might have been "captured" by the Earth as it passed nearby.

That scenario, deemed unlikely, was put to rest when Apollo rock samples showed that the moon and Earth were related enough geologically — with similar quantities of oxygen isotopes — to have formed in the same general neighborhood.

The moon was spun off as a separate body from a rapidly rotating early Earth that had bulged outward at the equator. If so, the moon ought to have the same chemical composition as the Earth's rocky surface layers. After studying the Apollo rocks and other data, researchers have concluded that the Earth and moon have different chemical makeups.

The third theory held that the Earth and moon formed at the same time when material in a spinning, primordial cloud of dust and gas began to clump together. Here, too, there were problems. Apollo found no evidence that the moon has a substantial metallic core similar to Earth's. Such a core would be expected if the two bodies were formed by the same processes, scientists said.

Scientists came to the rescue during the mid-1980s by reviving a long-ignored theory that fit the Apollo data and seemed to make sense: A large, Mars-sized body may have crashed into the early Earth, blasting huge chunks of debris into orbit around it. The debris eventually coalesced into what we now call the moon.

Only by returning to the moon either with men or machines, scientists say, can they begin to sort out the details of its history and its intimate coupling with the Earth. (Newsday)

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1994

Court appoints Adacom receivers

THE Tel Aviv District Court yesterday appointed attorney Lipa Meir and business consultant Alon Cohen as Adacom Technologies' temporary receivers.

The decision was made in response to a petition submitted by the company's major creditors to put the firm into receivership.

Bank Hapoalim, Bank Leumi and Israel General Bank's Trust Company had asked the court to appoint Meir as Adacom's receiver.

Judge Yeshai Levit authorized the receivers to manage the company, maintain the value of Adacom's business and sell assets to repay debts.

Levit also gave the green light for the receivers to borrow up to \$500,000 to continue operating the firm. In addition, Levit said the receivers are authorized to operate as shareholders for Adacom and its subsidiaries.

Cohen will be in charge of conducting economic valuations of Adacom and its subsidiaries. Cohen's appointment remains subject to the

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

approval of the official receiver, who according to law has to approve the court's appointment of a receiver or a liquidator who is not a lawyer.

Sources predicted the official receiver will approve the appointment in a day or two, even though it is very irregular for a court to appoint an accountant as a receiver.

Creditor sources said they are relieved with the verdict, because Adacom's current management will no longer be able to continue managing the group. Meir Gura, Adacom's major shareholder, and his wife are currently overseas.

"I think the appointment of Cohen as a second receiver indicates the court's intention not to sell all of Adacom's assets at once," the source said. "The court does not plan to liquidate the group. The receivers may decide to formulate a recovery plan designed to allow some of the subsidiaries to continue operations. I assume the receivers will negotiate

the sale of profitable subsidiaries like Iurit."

Sources predicted the receivers will spend the next month putting Adacom and its subsidiaries back on their feet. According to the sources, the receivers need about a month to examine Adacom and its subsidiaries before deciding on a strategy to repay creditors' debts.

At the court hearing, Levit reviewed the events leading up to the appointment of receivers in the financially troubled company.

The group's debts to Bank Hapoalim are NIS 47.33 million, while to Bank Leumi they are NIS 38.29m. General Bank's Trust Company said it appointed a trustee for Adacom bonds, which were issued to the public in September 1992. The bonds are valued at NIS 18m.

Creditor sources said the sale of all Adacom's assets will cover its debts to creditors. Eilat is reportedly examining the possibility of purchasing

some of Adacom's assets.

The Adacom group, which represents a number of subsidiaries engaged in the computer communication field, employs about 700 workers.

On Monday, the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange stopped trading in Adacom shares until the company's future becomes clearer.

The decision was made following Levit's ruling at the end of last week to reject the request by creditors and Meir Gura, Adacom's major shareholder, to appoint an operating receiver and approve a recovery plan.

Levit said the business plan was not satisfactorily put together. "The receivers' job will now be to improve the recovery plan," a creditor source said. "Once the plan is formulated, it will have to be approved in court."

According to the initial recovery plan, the creditor banks agreed to inject about \$2m. in the company so Adacom could continue operating as a going concern.

Retail sales increase 10% during second quarter

Rise follows 20% jump in first three months of year

JOSE ROSENFELD

RETAIL trade jumped by nine to 10 percent in real terms during the second quarter of the year after sales shot up 20% in the previous quarter, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

Treasury economic adviser Tsipi Gal-Yam said the growth last quarter is proof that the stock market's fall did not affect private consumption, as many had predicted.

However, she said the significant rise in retail sales of between 12% to 13% during the first half of the year compared to the same period last year does not represent the overall increase in private consumption.

According to her, the Central Bureau of Statistics surveys retail chains whose sales only make up a portion of total retail sales.

The increase may partially reflect the chains' larger share of the retail market and not necessarily a rise in private consumption, she explained.

It may be that immigrants are changing their purchasing behavior by going to supermarkets and other chain stores instead of shopping at their corner grocery, Gal-Yam said.

The increase also reflects the wage increases public sector employees have received, which has left them with more disposable income to spend, she added.

Gal-Yam expects private consumption will moderate in the second half of the year.

She noted that despite the jump in retail sales, private consumption is

not the engine driving the economy forward.

According to Gal-Yam, the economy is still export and investment-driven.

Food sales grew between 11% and 12% during the first half of the year, expanding a moderate 4% to 5% in the second quarter after jumping by 21% in the first quarter.

Retail sales of textiles and clothing shot up 17% during the first half of the year, while durable goods sales only increased 3%.

The bureau's survey includes marketing networks, chain stores, retail stores and supermarkets selling food, textiles, clothing, shoes, durable goods and other goods - except for cars, car parts and fuel and gas for home use.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Tsauri remained for seven days: Eylon Tsauri, the former deputy manager of Bank Hapoalim's Gmoli Provident Fund suspected of stock manipulation offenses, was remanded for seven days in the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court yesterday.

Tsauri has not yet been indicted on the stock charges but is presently on remand for related offenses - suborning witnesses and disrupting an investigation while on bail. He was remanded until trial by the Magistrates Court on these charges but appealed the decision to the District Court. The decision regarding the appeal will be given on Tuesday. Tsauri, meanwhile, agreed to his remand on stock manipulation charges until that date.

Darcom to invest \$1 million on communication networks: Darcom, the private telecommunications company, will invest \$1 million during the next three months on developing and expanding its international communications network in Israel, Europe and the northern US.

Darcom chairman David Reichmann said the investment in infrastructure results from demand "way beyond our expectations" for overseas calls via Darcom's network. The number of calls increases by 25 percent each month, he said. The company, founded two years ago, offers videoconferencing, data transmission, overseas faxes and calls, voice mail and connections to Internet.

Issuing of state bonds issue changes days: Beginning next month, the government will issue its bonds on Mondays and Wednesdays, instead of its current schedule of Wednesdays and Thursdays, the Treasury announced yesterday. The change is being made to accommodate those working in the capital market, who are off on Fridays. Payments for orders of government bonds issued on Thursdays are cleared the following day.

WORLD BRIEFS

German money growth slows, boosts rate cut hopes: The Bundesbank announced yesterday that German money supply growth had slowed markedly in June, boosting market hopes of another cut soon in official German interest rates. But economists and money dealers were divided on whether the Bundesbank would ease policy as early as tomorrow.

A report in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* newspaper quoted Bundesbank sources as saying the chances of a rate cut tomorrow were very slight but surprises could not be ruled out. *Reuter*

Citicorp posts surprisingly strong \$877 million profit: Citicorp, the largest banking company in the US, yesterday posted surprisingly strong second-quarter profits of \$877 million, surpassing even the most optimistic forecasts. The bank said its results, which compared with \$446m. in profits a year ago, were boosted by gains on Brazilian bonds, tax benefits and improving credit costs. *Reuter*

Intel reports record second quarter earnings: Intel Corp., the world's largest computer chip maker, reported record profits for the second quarter and cited rising sales of its powerful new Pentium personal computer microprocessor. This was the eighth consecutive quarter in which both revenue and earnings set new records, the Santa Clara, California-based Intel said.

Intel's second quarter revenue rose 30 percent from the corresponding quarter last year, while profits grew 12% over the year-earlier quarter. The company said its profits rose to \$640 million, or \$1.46 per share, from \$569m., or \$1.30 per share, in last year's second quarter. Revenues rose to \$2.77 billion from \$2.13b. *Reuter*

Coca-Cola reports higher earnings: Coca-Cola Co. reported higher earnings for the latest quarter, citing strong soft drink sales in North America and overseas. The Atlanta-based company said it earned \$758 million, or 59 cents a share, in the second quarter, compared with profits of \$678m., or 52 cents a share a year earlier. Sales rose to \$4.3 billion from \$3.9b. *Reuter*

SmithKline boosts profits despite Tagamet loss: SmithKline Beecham Plc said yesterday it had boosted second-quarter profits by 13 percent before tax and exceptional, despite the loss of patent on its blockbuster ulcer drug Tagamet. The Anglo-American drugs giant turned in a pre-tax profit of £291 million in the three months to the end of June. *Reuter*

Record imports swell US trade gap

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Record imports in May boosted the US deficit on trade in goods and services to \$9.17 billion from \$8.53b. In April, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

Imports grew 1.2 percent to a seasonally adjusted \$65.45b, while exports were up only 0.2% in May to \$56.27b. The resulting trade gap was the highest since \$9.61b. in February and was well above Wall Street economists' forecasts of an \$8.3b. shortfall.

The US typically runs a surplus on trade with other countries in services like travel and tourism that partly offsets big merchandise trade deficits.

In May, the merchandise deficit climbed to \$14.07b. from \$13.34b. in April, the biggest monthly gap since October 1987. At the same time, the surplus on services in May rose only slightly, to \$4.90b. from \$4.81b.

The politically sensitive deficit on trade in goods with Japan was down in May to \$4.39b. from \$5.48b., but still accounted for the bulk of the US monthly shortfall.

Clinton administration sources said it was likely trade sanctions will be applied against Japan this month. The US a month ago gave Japan a July 31 deadline to open up its public contracts business for telecommunications and medical technology, but US officials said little progress was being made.

Tension between the US and Japan is a contributing factor to the dollar's decline in value against the yen. The Clinton administration denies it wants the dollar to fall in order to make Japanese-made products more costly in US markets, but that is its effect. It also makes US-made goods cheaper for foreigners to buy.

TAAS marks first delivery in \$22m. deal to US Navy

Post Business Staff

TAAS-Israel Industries held a festive ceremony in Jerusalem yesterday to mark the supply of the first 50 Tactical Air Launched Decoys (TALD) to the US Navy.

Officials of the US Navy, McDonnell Douglas, the Lockheed Corporation, the American Embassy and members of the Knesset finance committee participated in the event at TAAS's Netz plant.

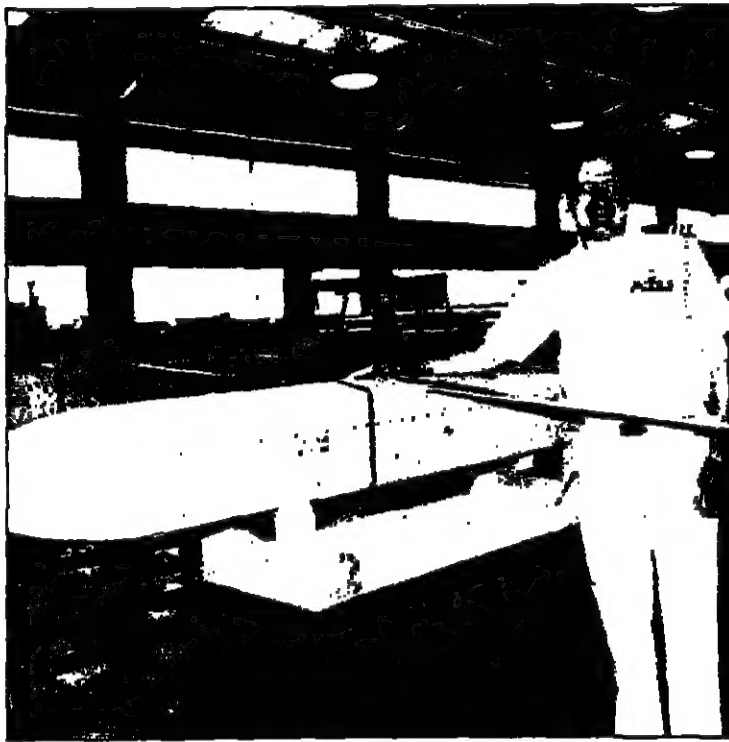
The \$22 million deal for the supply of 1,500 TALDs is to be completed by October, 1995.

The Netz plant is only one of two factories which produces TALDs for the US Navy.

Under the contract, TAAS is obligated to supply 100 TALDs a month. TAAS's TALD system confuses enemy anti-aircraft, allowing aircraft to reach their objectives while significantly reducing or eliminating loss of life and aircraft.

Despite plans to close the Netz plant, the factory received a \$4.5m. order this week from McDonnell Douglas for the production of an item which is exclusively made by the Jerusalem plant.

A month ago, the Knesset finance committee ordered TAAS to freeze all plans for closing Netz until a thorough examination is made of the matter.



US Naval Attache Tom Luketich at TAAS-Israel Industries's Netz plant in Jerusalem yesterday.

Panel: Gas stations can operate anywhere

EVELYN GORDON

THE minimum distance between gas stations should be eliminated to promote competition, but the accompanying environmental regulations will stay in force, the Knesset economics committee decided yesterday.

While the committee made this decision in principle two weeks ago, it held another meeting on the issue yesterday to hear the views of Energy Minister Moshe Shohat and Environment Minister Yossi Sarid.

Shohat tried to persuade the committee that its decision did not go far enough. All the accompanying regulations should be canceled, he argued, to encourage competition.

Sarid, however, said the entire regulation should be left intact, since the Knesset would set a dangerous precedent by overturning planning regulations worked out by panels of experts. While he had no objection to reducing the minimum distance between gas stations, he said, it should be done by the national planning and building committee, not the Knesset.

However, the committee rejected both views. It decided to approve a bill by MK Dan Tichon (Likud) which would eliminate the minimum distance between stations but which would retain other regulations, such as one requiring a minimum distance between gas stations and houses and one requiring stations to be a certain distance away from intersections.

The bill will probably be brought to the plenum for a second and third reading next week.

Tichon's bill also contains two other clauses - one to limit new contracts between gas stations and gas companies to nine years, and one to retroactively cancel all existing contracts - some of which are for 30 years or more - 14 years from the date they were signed.

However, these two clauses will be dealt with by the committee after the summer recess.

Committee chairman Tzahi Hanegbi (Likud) explained that since the retroactive cancellation of the contracts is controversial, the committee would prefer an agreement be worked out by the stations and the gas companies.

Both sides say they are close to an agreement, he said, so the committee decided to give them more time in the hope that its intervention will be unnecessary.

In contrast, the nine-year limit on new contracts has wide support, he said, but since it is related to the issue of existing contracts, the committee decided to postpone it as well.

Tadiran gets \$45m. in additional IDF orders

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TADIRAN announced yesterday it has received orders from the IDF for more than \$45 million, increasing the total orders received since June to \$75m.

The company said its systems division will supply the IDF with \$20m. in control systems and the communications system division received an order to supply \$25m. in data communications systems. Tadiran refused to supply additional information about the contracts.

At the end of last month, the communications systems division announced it won an IDF tender for \$30m. for development and supply of communications systems.

The company said the project strengthens its position as the IDF's leading supplier of communications systems and as one of the leading manufacturers of communications systems worldwide.

MKs: Shohat should alter rules for paying state firm directors

EVELYN GORDON

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat should rethink planned regulations on the payment of directors of government companies, the Knesset finance committee said yesterday.

Shohat has proposed paying public directors of government companies between NIS 350 and NIS 650 per board meeting for a maximum of one to six meetings a month.

The size of the stipend and the number of meetings permitted would be determined by the size and importance of the company. Chairmen of the board would receive between NIS 450 and NIS 800 per meeting. Currently, public directors are not paid anything, and this makes it difficult to attract qualified candidates, Shohat said.

However, he added, the state cannot afford to pay directors of government firms the hefty sums received by directors of publicly traded companies.

Committee members, however, attacked several aspects of Shohat's proposal.

Most MKs objected to limiting the number of meetings per month, since

this would prevent the board from determining the frequency of meetings in line with the company's needs.

If the Treasury wishes to put a cap on outlays, said some, it should limit the number of meetings per year for which a director is entitled to compensation.

This would allow the board to have more meetings during busy periods, and fewer in slack times.

According to committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor), the MKs in this group also favored reducing the number of meetings a year for which a director could be paid.

Other MKs, however, objected to the ceiling on the number of meetings entirely. Some MKs also said the stipends proposed by the Treasury were too low.

If the state really wants to compete with the private sector for directors, they said, the salary offered must be closer to what the private sector pays.

Gal therefore sent the proposal back to the Treasury, asking Shohat to rework it in line with the MKs' comments.

PazGas invests millions for helping companies switch to clean energy

RACHEL NEIMAN

PAZGAS has invested some NIS 1 million in helping Mifromal use clean energy by switching from fossil fuels to liquid petroleum gas (LPG), commonly known as cooking gas.

Mifromal, the country's largest producer of aluminum frames, contributed some NIS 400,000 to the switchover.

The deal was part of PazGas's efforts to cushion industry's expense of changing technologies by subsidizing installation and equipment costs - to

the tune of \$45m. over the past five years.

The company then recoups its loss through the sale of LPG.

LPG is significantly cheaper than solar oil, a major selling point in favor of switching technologies. But local environmental awareness is still low. Only 500 companies have made the switch to gas since 1991. PazGas Chairman Mordechai Ben Shach said legislation is needed to enforce ecological measures.

Electric Corp. manufacturers discuss supply of electricity

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Israel Electric Corporation has asked four private electricity manufacturers to negotiate the conditions under which it can buy electricity from private power stations the firms hope to establish.

Electric Corp. managing director Moshe Katz said several private companies have proposed establishing power stations to manufacture electricity for the Electric Corp.

Energy Minister Moshe Shohat has told the Electric Corp. to start talks with four firms for the supply of 500 megawatts of electricity.

The US-based Mid Atlantic has proposed establishing a 150-megawatt power station, while a Russian electricity manufacturer has proposed constructing one of 300 megawatts.

Both companies plan to establish the stations in Mishor Rotem, which is between Beersheba and Dimona.

The Electric Corp. will also negotiate with local companies. Ormat Industries has proposed establishing a 30-megawatt station, while Ashcoogen has proposed setting up a 25-megawatt one.

Work days lost to strikes up 323% in '93

Post Business Staff

A TOTAL of 1,636,866 days were lost to the economy by strikes last year, a 323 percent increase from 1992, according to figures released by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs yesterday.

The increase was attributable mainly to last year's strikes by teachers and civil servants.

The figures were part of a report to Labor and Social Affairs Minister Orr Nami from the ministry's Labor Relations Division, which operates in conjunction with the Histadrut's Institute for Socio-Economic Research in gathering data on strikes.

Last year there were 73 full strikes in the country involving 462,208 workers, compared to 114 strikes in 1992 which only involved 211,833 workers.

This marks a 36% drop in the number of strikes, but a 118% rise in the number of workers affected. Only 386,658 work days were lost in 1992.

The increase was blamed largely on the teachers' strike, which broke out last year and cost the economy more than a million days, and the civil servants' strike in which 300,000 work days were lost.

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Astros rally from 11-run deficit

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros matched the biggest comeback in National League history, rallying from an 11-run deficit to beat the St. Louis Cardinals 15-12 Monday night.

Kevin Bass, Andruw Cedeno, Mike Felder and Ken Caminiti each drove in two runs during an 11-run sixth inning that put Houston ahead 15-11.

Houston trailed 11-0 after three innings. The Philadelphia Phillies overcame a 12-1 deficit to beat Chicago 18-16 on April 17, 1976, and the St. Louis Cardinals rallied from an 11-0 deficit to beat New York 14-12 on June 15, 1952.

The major league record for the biggest comeback is 12 runs, done twice in the AL. The Philadelphia A's rallied from 14-12 to beat Cleveland 17-15 on June 15, 1925, and Detroit came back from 13-1 to defeat Chicago 16-15 on June 18, 1911.

On Friday, the Astros blew an 8-0 lead in Pittsburgh and lost 11-8. Mike Hampton (2-1) pitched two innings for the victory. Todd Jones went three innings for his third save. Bryan Evers (2-1) allowed four runs and four hits without recording an out in the sixth.

Braves 3, Pirates 2
Kest Meeker pitched a two-hitter and rookie Mike Kelly hit his first major league homer and doubled.
Mercker (8-2) shook off a two-run Pirates second inning to retire the final 18 batters for his fifth victory in his last six starts.

Fred McGriff homered again in Pittsburgh, just as he did in the All-Star game, as the Braves finally figured out how to win in Pittsburgh. The Braves started the season 1-7 against the Pirates and were swept in a three-game series in Three Rivers Stadium on April 29-May 1.

Pirates starter Steve Cooke (4-7) again failed to get much run support despite limiting the Braves to three runs over seven innings.
Pirates starter Steve Cooke (4-7) again failed to get much run support despite limiting the Braves to three runs over seven innings.



HOME COMING — Atlanta catcher Javy Lopez bobbles the throw as Pittsburgh's Orlando Merced slides home safely.

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single as the Yankees remained unbeaten since the All-Star break, winning all five on the road. He hit a grand slam Sunday in a 14-4 win at Seattle.
Xavier Hernandez (4-4) pitched three innings of relief, allowing only Geronimo Berroa's 12th homer leading off the fifth, for the victory. Steve Howe pitched the ninth for his 10th save.

Todd Van Poppel (5-9), pitching on three days rest, was also ineffective. He was done after 2 1/3, giving up three runs on seven hits. He threw 63 pitches and walked three.
Mariners 7, Orioles 5
Edgar Martinez hit a two-run double in the eighth inning and the host Mariners snapped a five-game losing streak.

Seattle won for only the third time in 13 games. The Orioles lost for just the fourth time in 13 games.

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
New York	55	35	.611	—
Baltimore	53	38	.582	2.5
Boston	45	46	.495	10.5
Detroit	42	51	.452	14.5
Toronto	41	50	.451	14.5
Central Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
Chicago	55	36	.604	—
Cleveland	50	41	.550	5.5
Kansas City	49	44	.522	7
Minnesota	43	48	.473	12
Milwaukee	42	50	.457	13.5
West Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
Texas	45	47	.489	—
Oakland	40	52	.436	8
California	40	54	.428	8
Seattle	38	54	.413	7

Indurain challenged on the mountains

L'ALPE D'HUEZ, France (AP) — Miquel Indurain reacted quickly when his lead — even at more than seven minutes — was challenged yesterday as the Tour de France entered the Alps.

France's Richard Virenque, second in the overall standings, took off alone on the final mountain and tried to build up time against Indurain.

Roberto Conti of Italy and a handful of others were minutes ahead but no threat to Indurain overall. Conti went on to win the stage.

But the three-time defending champion decided to take control of things when Virenque had about a 90-second edge. With less than three kilometers left, Indurain increased the pace, and ended on finishing only 35 seconds behind Virenque in 11th.

Virenque now trails Indurain in the overall standings by 7:21.
Two other French riders, Luc Leblanc and Armand De Las Cuevas are third and fourth after the stage of 224 kilometers.

Conti captured yesterday's stage which ended with the famed climb to l'Alpe d'Huez. He took control of a small group that broke away from the main pack at the bottom of the final

1,860-meter ascent. He went out on his own with about 10 kilometers left and won by more than two minutes over Hernan Buenahora of Colombia.

Starting yesterday's stage, Conti was almost 18 minutes behind Indurain in the overall standings and moved up to sixth in the overall standings, still almost 10 minutes behind Indurain.

It was the first time Conti won an important stage of a race.
"I never had great ambitions, nor the stamina of a great rider," Conti said. "To be just a team member doesn't bother me. But I knew one day or another, my day will come."

"The best riders mark time in the important stages and it's riders like me who are able to profit by it."
"It's the fourth time that I've climbed l'Alpe d'Huez. Three times I was exhausted at the bottom," Conti said. "This time it was now or never."

The Tour bypassed l'Alpe d'Huez last year and returned this year without Andy Hampsten, who in 1992 became the first American to win the stage. He fell in training, injuring his knee and shoulder a week before the start of the Tour on July 2.

Israel draws Belgium in Davis Cup

ORI LEWIS
ISRAELI tennis fans can be mighty pleased with the outcome of yesterday's Davis Cup draw for the relegation round of the 1993-94 competition.

Of all the opponents the draw could have provided, it threw up one of the easiest, Belgium, with the tie to be played at Ramat Hasharon on the weekend of September 23-25.

The tie is a repeat of recent tennis history.
Israel played Belgium in the relegation playoff in Brussels in 1992 and lost, thus being dumped into the Euro/African Zone I for the first time after five years in the prestigious 16-nation World Group for five years.

Amos Mansdorf and Gili Bloom will probably lead Israel's challenge to stay in the top flight of men's tennis, but they will come up against stiff opposition in the shape of Xavier Danfresne and Filip Dewulf, both ranked around 130 in the world.

The Israelis will be looking for revenge against the Belgians. But while it was the same team — Mansdorf and Bloom — who lost on the ultra-slow clay courts in Brussels in September 1992, the Belgians will almost certainly not opt for the players — Bart Wuyts and Eduardo Masso — who took them to the subsequent year's competition's World Group.

The rest of the draw pitted: New Zealand vs. Australia; Uruguay vs. Austria; Portugal vs. Croatia; Hungary vs. Italy; Denmark vs. Peru; India vs. South Africa and Indonesia vs. Switzerland.

Mansdorf, meanwhile, did his self no harm by winning through the first round of the \$625,000 D.C. Classic in Washington on Monday. The Israeli, seeded 12 and winner of the tournament in 1993, beat David Nalokin of South Africa 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Basketball schedule set

JOEL GORDIN

THE 1994/5 national league basketball season will start earlier than usual with the first round set for Thursday, September 1.

The Israel Basketball Association has gone ahead with the schedule despite the possibility that some teams — notably Hapoel Jerusalem and Beitar Ramat Gan — may be non-starters for financial reasons. The 26th and final round will be played on March 19 next year and the playoffs will start immediately afterwards.

If the final goes to a fifth game, it is scheduled for April 27. The first round of the State Cup is to be played August 25 and the finals on March 22. The State Cup draw is set for August 5.

World Cup hailed as great success

PASADENA (AP) — The best team won, just as it did four years ago.

Otherwise, the 1994 World Cup was separated by light years from its 1990 predecessor.

Forget that this year's tournament was a smashing financial success and a month-long soccer party that the US not only was invited to, but hosted. And enjoyed, from Game 1 to Game 52 — and beyond, into a shootout.

Remember, instead, how good the soccer was in all nine venues. Sure, the final was something of a letdown, being decided by penalty kicks after a relatively disappointing game between two powerhouses. Still, it had its moments, and nearly every other match did, too. More good moments than bad, by far.

"We must applaud FIFA for finding ways to make the soccer more entertaining, more exciting," said Pele, the sport's goodwill ambassador and its greatest player, who watched Brazil take home the championship for the first time since he led that nation to its third title in 1970.

"After Italia '90, FIFA understood changes must be made. Those changes were made, and the tournament in the US was a great success," he said.

There was more scoring, more creativity, tighter refereeing — at least through the quarter-finals — and tremendous enthusiasm from a public that rarely embraced the sport in the past.

Brazil clearly was the most skilled squad in the 24-team field. It was undefeated in seven games, showing resourcefulness, patience and a staunch defense. Plus, of course, that intricate short-passing attack that sometimes appeared like a maze. Opponents got lost in that maze, and Romario or Bebeto sneaked through for memorable goals.

"It was a well-earned title, as Brazil was indeed the best team in the tournament," Bebeto said. "Other teams changed when they played us. Italy is the proof of that."

Italy also was the proof of what perseverance can do for a team. Nearly eliminated in the first round, the last of 16 teams to advance, the Italians were on the verge of a second-round sendoff, too. Then their star, 1993 player of the year Roberto Baggio, awoke with two late goals against Nigeria. He got another against Spain, in the final moments. And two more against Bulgaria.

"He has been through some very difficult times," teammate Roberto Donadoni said. "Roberto has been unfairly blamed for our struggles, but he has been injured and he has been very well marked. But when we were in our moment of need, he was there to save us."

Italy was as worthy of a fourth World Cup crown as the Brazilians who won the shootout. The Italians could go home proud and respected.

Oddly, there were other teams that could call their stays in the US a success.

Certainly, the Swedes and Bulgarians had to feel that way. Sweden had its best showing since losing to Brazil in the 1958 final. Bulgaria, 0-10-6 coming in, had its best World Cup ever.

Bulgaria and Romania, which fell in a quarter-finals penalty kick shootout against Sweden, stamped the Balkans as a budding power base.

The host Americans should be satisfied, too. They got the US past the first round for the first time in 54 years. They got fans everywhere involved. Maybe they established a foothold for the sport on a professional level. Finally.

Of course, there also were the major disappointments. Colombia, a pre-tournament favorite, went out in the first round, beaten by Romania and the US. One of the Colombian stars, Andres Escobar, was shot to death back in Medellin, apparently for scoring an own goal against the Americans.

Argentina appeared destined for great things until superstar Diego Maradona tested positive for stimulants and was banished. His teammates quickly followed him out of the event.

Defending champion Germany, a finalist in the last two World Cups, was eliminated in the quarter-finals. Belgium, a top seed, got to the second round and hastily disappeared. Russia got a record five goals in one game from Oleg Salenko, yet went three-and-out.

Cameron, the darling of the 1990 tournament, was racked by dissension and dispatched in the first round. At least the winners and losers generally were entertaining, willing to attack and anxious to present the best side of soccer. America seemed to notice.

US 'keeper switches brands of football

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP) — Tony Meola, the only player on the US soccer team who could touch the ball with his hands, is now a kicker for the New York Jets.

The Jets announced Monday that they signed Meola, goalkeeper for the American World Cup team, to a contract at an undisclosed amount.

"We gave Tony quite an extensive workout late last week and were really impressed by his leg strength and accuracy," Jets general manager Dick Steinberg said. "We feel that with experience and some technique work, he has the potential to be a solid NFL placekicker."

The 25-year-old was one of the most high profile members of the US team that made history by reaching the second round of the World Cup.

A national team member since 1989, he is among the team leaders in all-time appearances in international matches and held the eventual championship from Brazil scoreless for the first 73 minutes of the US 1-0 loss in the second round of the World Cup.

In June, Meola said this would be his final World Cup. At the time, he said he still might be willing to play in the pro league that's supposed to start in the US in April.

He left the door open, however, should his NFL career fail.

"Maybe after a while, my flame will be rekindled, and I'll come back," he said.

Meola started 18 matches for the US in 1993 with seven shutouts, including a 2-0 victory over England in the US Cup '93.



FROM SOCCER TO FOOTBALL — American World Cup goalkeeper Tony Meola in action.

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PHILIPINA (F) needed for housework, 4 times a week, 5 hours a day, will only receive women with recommendations. Tel Aviv ☎ 03-6059336. ☎ 03-6059336

HOUSE MOTHER needed for diversified house work, live-in/out ☎ 03-804780. ☎ 03-804780

NICE AU PAIR needed, live-in, 1 child + housework, recommendations ☎ 03-5234292. ☎ 03-5234292

HIGH SALARY and GOOD CONDITIONS for nice au pair, live-in for one year. ☎ 03-5223969 (mornings). ☎ 03-5223969

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SALES PERSONNEL

FASHIONABLE BOUTIQUE on Dizengoff requires experienced saleslady. Good conditions. ☎ 03-5225451. ☎ 03-5225451

GENERAL

PORTERS, Israelis and others, for work at wholesale vegetable market, Tel Aviv, good conditions. ☎ 03-6754821. ☎ 03-6754821

PERSONALS

ACADEMIC ISRAELI, 58, 5'8" seeking intelligent, honest, attractive woman for marriage. ☎ 03-6816477. ☎ 03-6816477

VEHICLES

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PASSPORT - Opel Corsa, 1600, 1994, top condition, ABS, urgent. ☎ 03-5227382. ☎ 03-5227382

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Ex-Tsomet official: Eitan used IDF data to force party member to quit post

MDA ambulance drivers refuse to collect fees from patients

JUDY SIEGEL

FORMER Tsomet secretary-general Dr. Martin Sherman is accusing party leader MK Rafael Eitan of illegally using military information to pressure a party member into quitting a central committee post.

Sherman, who is still a party member, yesterday petitioned the party's tribunal to suspend Eitan from Tsomet's leadership on the basis of these allegations.

Tsomet spokesman Nafali Yaniv said yesterday that Sherman is proving once again that his whole purpose is - together with his friends - to ruin Tsomet from within, and he will not succeed.

Yaniv added that anyone who leaks complaints to the tribunal to the press before the tribunal even knows about them should not expect the tribunal to deal with their requests.

In his petition, Sherman states that in Tsomet's secretariat meeting of October 28, 1992, Eitan reported that he had used information obtained from the IDF computer to force party member Asher Cohen to retire from Tsomet's central committee, to which he was appointed by the secretariat a short time earlier.

At a previous secretariat meeting, three days earlier, Eitan said Cohen had quit Tsomet altogether, not only the central committee. However, this turned out to be false, as the meeting protocol attached to the petition indicates.

"When I asked him why, Cohen - who had been appointed to the central committee earlier - was off the members' list, Eitan announced that he had used IDF computer data to force Cohen to quit the committee," Sherman said.

The petition notes that using the IDF's data reserve is forbidden and constitutes a crime whose penalty is imprisonment. What is even worse is using military information for internal partisan purposes, which is reminiscent of goings-on in totalitarian regimes, Sherman said.

It is not proper, the petition adds, that a man who committed such an act or was party to it should lead a political party of any kind, far less a party running on the banner of purity, integrity, decency and honesty.

In view of the severity of the case, and since the Military Police are investigating it, Sherman asks the tribunal to order Eitan's suspension from his position until a thorough examination is conducted both by Tsomet institutions and by the authorized external bodies handling it.

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

MDA David Adom ambulance drivers have been instructed by their union to stop collecting fees from patients they transport. This is the "first step" in sanctions against management, which the union claims has refused to implement a wage agreement signed last month.

Union head Eli Ben-Khassous said yesterday that the workers will not apply sanctions that harm the public, but they will take action at management's expense. Workers in the first-aid and blood-supply organization had been promised a 40 percent special payment for their dangerous and round-the-clock work, but management is "trying to get out of paying what it committed itself to give," Ben-Khassous charged.

He added that the workers refrained from making any demands during the past two years because in order to survive, the organization was bound by the Health Ministry to carry out a tough recovery program. Now that the program has been fully carried out, with 160 staffers dismissed, MDA workers feel free to make demands, including the special payment granted to other emergency workers, such as firefighters.

While the firefighters get a 40 percent special payment increase in their salaries, MDA staffers receive only a 25 percent hike, Ben-Khassous said. The MDA's executive committee decided last night to ask the government to approve an increase in special payments for its workers. It was not MDA's management but Treasury wage chief Shalom Granit who refused to approve the whole increase promised to the workers, they said. Granit approved only a quarter of the increase. Management asked the workers not to punish the organization by refusing to collect the ambulance service fees.

Tai Chi helping prisoners overcome aggression

RAINE MARCUS

INMATES at Ramle's Ayalon Prison are learning to restrain their aggression with the help of the martial arts, and prisoners and wardens agree the weekly Tai Chi lessons are helping in their rehabilitation.

But instead of their usual instructor, this week the inmates - serving time for offenses ranging from burglary to murder - were treated to a lesson by the world master himself, Fu Lai Wang, who arrived here this week for a Tai Chi seminar. Although this is Wang's fourth time here, it was his first visit to an Israeli prison.

"Tai Chi is a philosophy - it reduces aggression, neutralizes anger and gives you time to meditate and solve your problems," he said following the lesson.

"It really does help them," said prison deputy warden Daniel Gorman. "The inmates who take part in Tai Chi lessons have become more disciplined and have more self-control. Both wardens and prisoners have reported really positive changes."

Prisoners participating in lessons, which started around three months ago, were carefully screened. Only a couple have dropped out of classes. One deaf mute prisoner has especially benefited, said Gorman. "He was a total outcast before. This has given him something to look forward to and has raised his self-esteem," he said.



Tai Chi world master Fu Lai Wang (right) instructing Ayalon Prison inmates at the prison.

Beersheba municipality protests plans to turn local dump into national landfill

AMIR ROZENBLIT

AN Environment Ministry plan to turn Beersheba's municipal garbage dump into a national waste disposal site drew sharp criticism yesterday from Beersheba Mayor Yitzhak Rager, who said he would appeal the matter to the High Court of Justice if necessary.

"They've sold the vision of the Negev for a fistful of money," Rager said. "The world is moving towards recycling and advanced technology, and we're setting up dumps. And where? In the Negev, of course."

"We are not against progress, but we are protesting the attempt to find easy solutions at our expense. We feel like we've been cheated. Efforts are under way aimed at setting up a national waste disposal site at Dudaim, aimed at creating a fair accompaniment. This is being done in broad daylight, without updating the municipality about this. We've decided to launch a campaign against the establishment of the site, and if necessary, we'll appeal to the High Court of Justice."

Work on transforming the Dudaim site, north of the city, into a national waste disposal site are in high gear, and await government approval. The Beersheba municipality has set up a committee to fight the idea of having the 1,200-dunam site handle garbage from

Netanya to Mizpe Ramon. Committee head Miriam Turkel said such a move would be an ecological disaster.

"Minister Sarid is working to transfer the Hiriya dump to the site, stressing the project will bring employment to thousands of unemployed Negev residents," Turkel said. "Something's finally coming to the Negev, but not Israel Chemicals or high tech industry - just garbage."

According to police records, there were 1,681 road accidents that killed or injured 2,920 people last month. Thirty-six of the accidents involved fatalities and 299 led to serious injuries.

Since the beginning of the year, there were 9,630 accidents that killed or injured 17,127 people and claimed the lives of 273 individuals.

Road accidents averaged 1,631 a month during the second quarter of the year, an increase of 6% compared with the first quarter.

42 killed on roads in June

JOSE ROSENFELD

FORTY-two people were killed and 299 were seriously injured on the nation's roads in June, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

Fatalities dropped by 7.7% compared with the average over the past six months, while serious injuries decreased by 4%. The number of accidents last month edged down 0.7% compared with May, while the number of injured persons decreased 4.5%.

There has been a sharp drop of 16.8% in accidents since the beginning of the year, compared with the same period last year. Fatalities, however, shot up 19.7% while injuries fell by 12.7%.

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Meshulam petitions court to receive home-cooked food

EVELYN GORDON

PRISONERS should be allowed to receive home-cooked or catered food that meets their kashrut standards, according to a petition by Uzi Meshulam to the High Court of Justice.

The court decided yesterday that the petition will be heard by a panel of three judges.

Meshulam, who is being held in Tel Mond prison, said he cannot eat ordinary prison food, because he only accepts strict kashrut certifications, such as that of the Eda Haredit in Jerusalem.

Regulations permit prisoners who keep strict levels of kashrut to receive vegetarian meals supplied by the army, and to import canned food, cold cuts and, during the *shmita* year, fruits and vegetables. However, they may not bring in bread or cooked food.

In the petition, attorney Dror

However, they agreed with the sponsors of the bill that this obligation was unreasonable, and asked that the entire issue be re-examined.

The committee decided the best way to accede to this request was to send the bill on to the Knesset and allow the legislature to thrash out the issue.

However, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said he strongly supported requiring Channel 2 to show some election propaganda, in order to give candidates the widest possible platform.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man gets nine years for assault, robberies

A Herzliya man was sentenced to nine years' imprisonment by the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday for attacking an elderly man during a robbery, and other thefts.

Yehuda Shimoni, 24, was convicted of entering the home of an 83-year-old man and demanding he hand over his money at knifepoint. When the man did not cooperate, Shimoni tied and gagged him and later slit his throat. When he could not find any money, he left the apartment.

Request for charges against Sheves

The Movement for Quality Government asked the attorney-general yesterday to consider bringing criminal and/or disciplinary charges against Shimon Sheves, the director of the Prime Minister's Office, for his interference with the Deri investigation. Amital - Citizens for Good Government - filed a similar request last week. Sheves' activities were revealed in a recent state comptroller's report.

Stolen artifacts found in archeologist's home

A stash of rare antiquities, including an oil lamp, was discovered in the home of a Nazareth archeologist yesterday. The antiquities were valued at about \$150,000, most of them from the Byzantine period.

Police searched the home of the 28-year-old archeologist in connection with an Antiquities Authority investigation into the theft and illegal dealing in antiquities. Police said they would soon make more arrests in the affair.

IDF earth work dries river, kills fish

Thousands of dead fish were found yesterday in a dried-up tributary of the Jordan River near the Dodo Bridge. A spokesman for the Society for the Preservation of Nature in Israel said earth work being undertaken in the vicinity by the IDF led to the sudden drying up of the tributary. In addition to the fish, many rare plants have died as well, SPNI said. Staffers of the Golan Field School discovered the phenomenon and managed to rescue some fish by putting them back into flowing water.

Winning numbers and cards

In last night's weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 8, 16, 17, 25, 30, and 33. The additional number was 6.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapais daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the nine of spades, eight of hearts, jack of diamonds and queen of clubs.

Rabbis warn yeshiva students not to hitch rides

HERB KEINON

THE COUNTRY'S leading halachic authorities yesterday circulated a warning to thousands of yeshiva students now on a three-week vacation not to hitchhike.

The warning, signed by Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach and Rabbi Shalom Yosef Elyashiv, read: "A number of hitchhiking incidents involving danger to body and soul, and the desecration of God's name, have come to our attention. Therefore, we sternly warn everyone not to stand at hitchhiking posts, and not to go into any car whatsoever - except if

you know the driver - even if the driver appears to be religious."

Agudat Yisrael's daily, *Hama'ala*, which ran the warning on its front page yesterday, explained that the warning comes "after a number of severe mishaps that occurred as a result of hitchhiking. Besides the severe security danger, there were a number of grave cases where the drivers' courtesy was taken advantage of. It is also known that there are some people who hunt haredi hitchhikers in order to get them to go against their faith."

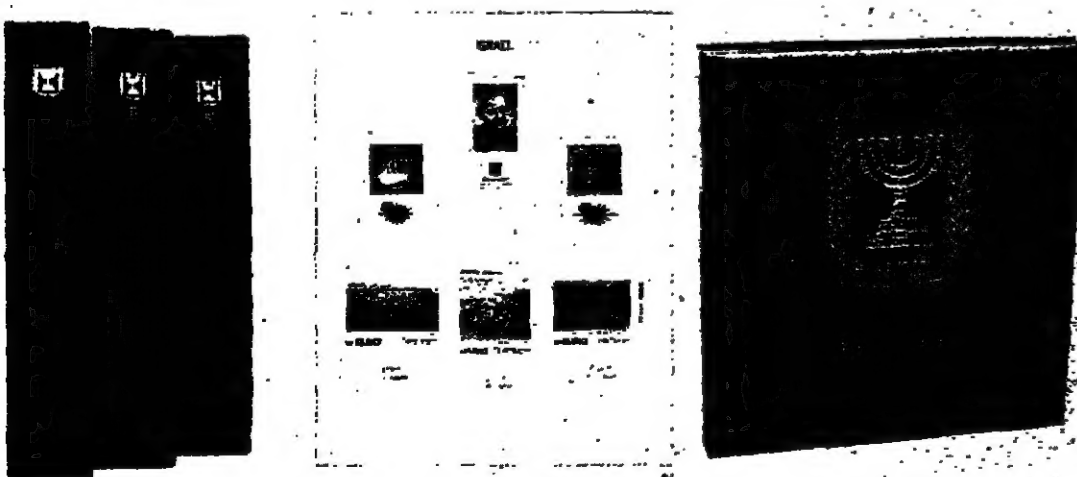
HALLELUYAH WORLDWIDE SONG CONTEST FOR JEWISH YOUTH

We welcome all the contestants in the Halleluyah 1994, who have arrived from countries around the world: Redbridge, England; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Montreal, Canada; New York, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Los Angeles, U.S.A.; Vinnitsa, Ukraine; Hazor Hagalit, Israel; Tiberias, Israel; Warsaw, Poland; Prague, Czech Republic; Paris, France; Toronto, Canada; Bucharest, Romania; Moscow, Russia; and extend to them our warmest greetings.

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Ministry of Education and Culture
World Zionist Organisation, Youth and Hehalutz Department
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